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OCTOBER 12, 2000 [53.10]

Martlet

SEXUAL VIOLENCE

photo by Richard Warrington

How safe is residence?

Sexual assault numbers double at UVic

Date-rape pill contributes to alarming increase

by Carey Rudisill

At least 34 female UVic students were the victims of sexual assault last month, including four who were drugged by Rhohypnol, the notorious date-rape pill. Those numbers are up dramatically from September 1999, when 16 women sought support from the campus Sexual Assault Centre.

One of the four rape-drug incidents occurred on campus, according to centre coordinator Roshni Narain.

Narain says that when rape drugs are used, victims find it difficult to recount their experience.

"Folks are left with a lot of questions. What did happen? It's hard to talk about rape drugs because there's time missing," she says. "What [women] do remember is being in a particular place and having a drink."

Rhohypnol is tasteless, odorless and colorless. Roofies, as the drug is commonly known, belongs to the family of depressants and rapidly causes loss of memory, sedation and a drunken-like state.

Bystanders cannot easily identify a potential attacker, says Narain.

"What becomes problematic is what people see – a very drunk woman and a kind person who is taking her home," she says.

Narain says that most of the 34 women who visited the centre this September had been assaulted during the month. Eleven of the assaults happened in UVic residences.

"But don't think that because you don't live in [on-campus] housing, you're not vulnerable. Your risk factor is that you're a woman," she says.

Women should not assume that they cannot be raped because they are with someone they know. "Being roommates means nothing," says Narain. "That would be my caution. There's nothing that necessarily protects you."

Narain adds that men need be aware of the problem: "It's critical for men to do the work. Look out and challenge other men."

Those 34 students may not be the only ones assaulted last month. Narain estimates that only 10 per cent of victims talk about sexual assaults, and only one per cent of those get reported to the police.

So those 11 incidents in residence suggest that another 100 assaulted women did not visit the centre in September, according to Narain.

Women come to the centre for support rather than to report the assaults. The centre refers victims to the police or other agencies for reporting.

Narain says that the numbers for September seem high. "I don't know that we're doing enough – 34 women in four weeks," Narain adds. "It's hard to speak to those numbers and what they mean. It may mean the number of assaults are rising [or] it may reflect that there's a service and people are using it."

> We'd be kidding ourselves if we didn't say the numbers are higher. It makes me pretty sick.
>
> *Lisa Gibson, Residence Life coordinator*

Steve Fitterer, who manages UVic Residence Life, responds to the in-residence assaults by saying, "That's 11 too many."

He mentions that resident advisors (RAs) show a video entitled, *It's Criminal, You Know* at the start of each year. "We need to make men realize that whether you're doing something wrong is not the issue – it's what the other person feels. It's an ongoing educational process." He adds that four to five RAs sit on a sexual awareness committee.

"We constantly update people with what's happening," he says.

Several students interviewed for this article, however, said that they had not heard about any assaults.

"We'd be kidding ourselves if we didn't say [the numbers of assaults] are higher," says Lisa Gibson, Residence Life coordinator. "It makes me pretty sick that it's happening."

Gibson recognizes the difficulties victims face after an assault. "It's a huge hurdle in your first month [at school]," she says.

Last year, RAs held meetings in October as a follow-up to the video showing. Gibson says they plan to do the same this year.

"It's an issue that needs to be addressed throughout the year – about power and consent," she says. "What does consent mean to you?"

Many students feel threatened enough to use the campus Safe Walk program when walking through campus at night.

Pam Garraha, a UVic student living in cluster housing on-campus, says she often uses the program. "It feels safe," she says.

Gill Martin, another student living in cluster housing, says she also uses Safe Walk after 10 p.m. although there are not enough lights on campus to feel safe at night.

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Food safety activists target Langford Superstore

demand stores pull genetically engineered foods pending labelling

by David Brown

As part of the action plan to raise awareness about genetically engineered (GE) foods in Canada, protesters staked out the Real Canadian Superstore in Langford this past weekend.

The Western Community mega-grocery store was one of 40 Loblaws' chain stores targeted for pickets across Canada by Gene Action and the Council of Canadians.

"There is no government testing at this point," said Eric Lescarbeau, one of the founders of Gene Action. "[The government] has admitted that they rely completely on corporations and GE promoters for information."

He said the danger with GE foods comes from the lack of testing. The end result of human consumption of these products is unknown. Lescarbeau also noted potential environmental threats from genetic contamination.

"You can't breed a fish with a strawberry, but these lines are being crossed and we don't know what the impact will be," he said. "And you can't remove these genes from the environment. Once they're out there, they're out there for good."

> You can't breed a fish with a strawberry, but these lines are being crossed and we don't know what the impact will be.
>
> *Eric Lescarbeau, Gene Action*

According to Saul Arbess, the Victoria President of Council of Canadians, Loblaws has refused to label GE Foods, which are sold in grocery chains such as the Real Canadian Superstore.

"We want to end the experiment and convince George Weston (head of Loblaws) and the Loblaws organization to label GE foods until they can be removed from the shelves," said Arbess. "We know it can be done because it was done by the big chains in England in a matter of months."

After the pickets were put away and petitions collected, Arbess addressed the group of 14 protesters with a concluding speech. He said the rally had been successful – that over 100 signatures were collected and many information leaflets were handed out.

There are several upcoming events concerning GE foods in Victoria, "GE-Free Day" on Oct. 12 and a rally on the UVic campus. The protest starts at 2:30 p.m. in front of the library. Corky Evans, B.C. Minister of Agriculture, will be present as well as Joan Russow, leader of the Green Party.

The next major day of action is planned for early November and will include a march through downtown Victoria with stops planned at MP David Anderson's office as well as the Legislature.

The ultimate goal of organizations like Council of Canadians, Gene Action and Citizen Action to Save the Environment Society (CASES) is to have GE Foods eliminated from the market until long-term testing of the foods has been completed. Until elimination can occur, these groups advocate labeling all products containing GE ingredients to ensure consumers will have an educated choice in what they buy.

The Langford Superstore general manager Jerry Rogers refused to comment on the pickets.

photo by David Brown

Green Party leader Joan Russow and others raise awareness of food safety issues in Langford's Superstore. They want all products subject to genetic engineering removed from shelves until they are labelled.

University of Victoria Students' Society / Canadian Federation of Students Local 44

UVSS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thursday, October 19, 2000 - 1:00 pm. SUB UPPER LOUNGE

CFS FCE

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Ratification of Speaker
3. Review Robert's Rules of Order
4. Adoption of Agenda
5. Introduction and Report of the Board of Directors
6. Question Period *Question Period shall be limited to 30 (thirty) minutes.*
7. Report on Finances
   a) Be it resolved that the 2000-2001 budget be approved as presented.
   b) Be it resolved that the 1999-2000 audited statements be accepted as presented.
8. Other Business
9. Notice of Motion
   Notice of motions for the February 2001 General Meeting may be given at this time.
10. Adjournment

Bring your student ID *Free donuts, coffee, tea & snacks*

Protesters shut down NATO – a year early!

Mayor Lowe demands funds from feds in wake of police report

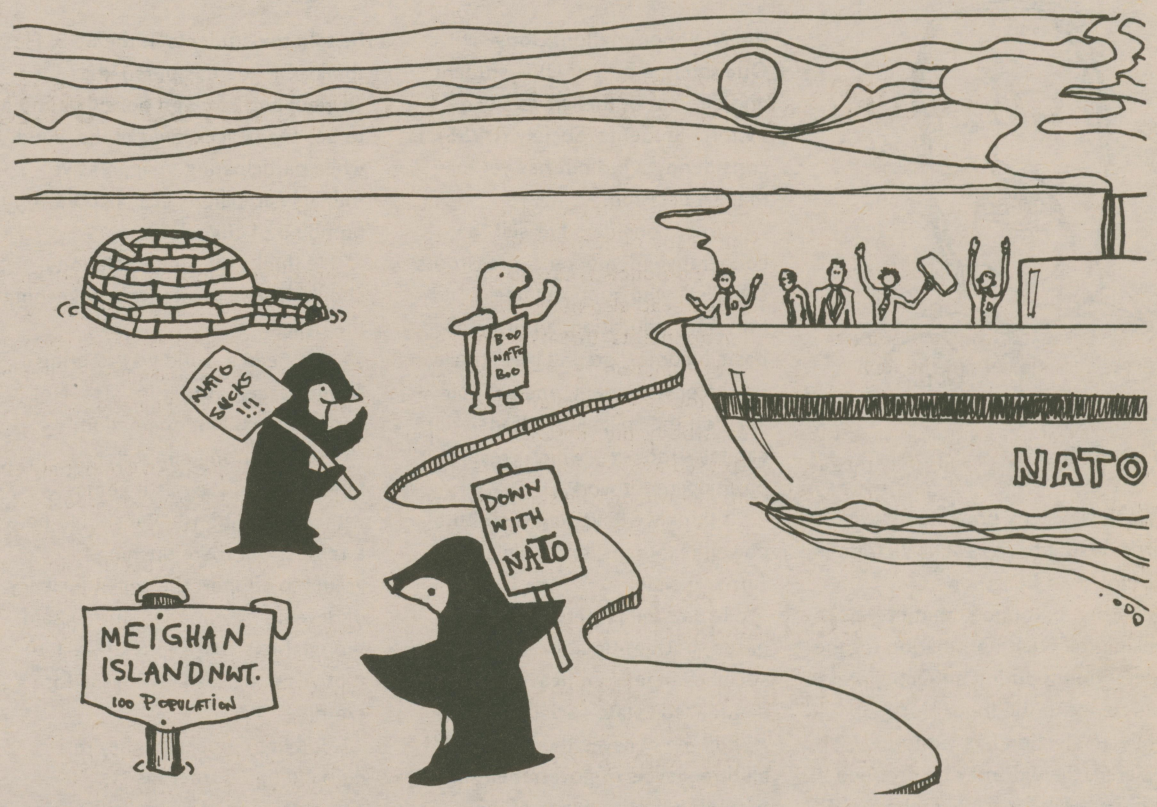

image by Darian Kovacs

by Ben Isitt

Thanks to our frugal mayor and some savvy sleuthing by Victoria police, plans by local activists to turn Douglas Street into a carnival of dissent against the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) have been cancelled.

NATO will hit another Canadian town instead, says a letter to Mayor Alan Lowe received Oct. 5 from George Proud, Liberal MP from Prince Edward Island and chair of the Canadian NATO parliamentary association.

> If the NATO Parliamentary Assembly occurs, the City will look very different for a 10 day period in October 2001.
>
> *Chief Constable Peter Battershill*

"No site has been chosen as of yet," said a staffer in Proud's Ottawa office. "They're still weighing all their options."

But the employee, who requested he not be named, cautions against jumping to conclusions about the conference.

"People think it's all the generals or something...It's just a bunch of parliamentarians who get together to chat."

From Oct. 11 to 15 next year, 600 delegates from the defense ministries of NATO's 19 member an 11 associate-member countries were to converge on Victoria, for a series of meetings at the city's Conference Centre behind the Empress Hotel.

Not any more.

Lowe requested over $3 million from the federal government to cover anticipated policing costs. When the feds balked at the request, the mayor asked Proud to pull the plug.

"The security of our community and its financial well-being is the priority," Lowe said.

The decision to request federal funds was made "in light of the recent experiences of other North American cities who have hosted 'globalization' conferences, and who have incurred significant costs as a result," Lowe said.

On Sept. 5, Const. Paul Battershill, head of the Victoria Police Department, submitted a report to Mayor Lowe, members of City Council, and the Victoria Police Board.

The report highlighted four international conferences targeted by "globalization protest actions": the World Trade Organization meetings in Seattle in November 1999; the annual meeting of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank in Washington, DC, in April 2000; a meeting of the Organization of American States held in Windsor, Ont. in June 2000; and that of the World Petroleum Congress, held in Calgary last June.

In all four, Victoria activists joined citizens from across the world to protest exploitative economics. "It is within the context of the above four events that we are now considering what may happen in Victoria with the NATO Parliamentary Assembly meeting in October 2001," Const. Battershill wrote in his report.

Battershill's prognosis was grim: "We have collected enough information to advise Council that we have concerns that there is potential for a very significant level of protest directed toward the assembly and individual members of the delegations."

The conference had already appeared on several "internet globalization protest sites," including that of the UVic-based Vancouver Island Public Interest Group (VIPIRG). Print-outs from these web sites were included in Battershill's report.

Further, "local protest groups have indicated a desire to protest and are organizing a planning meeting later this month."

This meeting took place Sept. 26 at the Fernwood Community Association. The hall was packed with roughly 100 people, many of whom came across from the Mainland to take part in the organizing effort.

Battershill also raised concern over Victoria's proximity to cities with large potential protester populations, including Vancouver and Eugene, Oregon, the centre of the anarchist "black bloc faction."

As a result of this perceived risk, the police chief warned that downtown Victoria would have to be converted into an armed camp.

His report outlined a proposal for an onsite "detention facility," the employment of a "relatively large number of police officers" (1500 were used in Calgary and Windsor), and the creation and enforcement of an "exclusion zone" around the conference site, which would possibly require a municipal by-law in order to be legal.

"Victoria has a unique character and tourist-oriented downtown," Battershill warned. "If the NATO Parliamentary Assembly occurs, the City will look very different for a 10 day period in October 2001. This will include an exclusion zone in prime tourist areas, barriers, fencing and a large number of police officers."

An officer in charge would be assigned in November 2000 to oversee the operation. In April 2001, an "intelligence group" involving CSIS and NSIS (two national intelligence bodies) would begin such tasks as "targeting" and "group I.D."

The cost for the entire operation?

"It is certainly possible that the $3.4 million is within the magnitude we may have to consider," Battershill suggested in his report, citing the policing figure for the Windsor conference.

According to Mayor Lowe, Calgary submitted a bill of $4.7 million to the federal government. The immediate cost to Seattle for the WTO exceeded $9 million, Battershill wrote, and that didn't include "over a hundred million dollars in potential liability" stemming from outstanding lawsuits against the police department.

It appears as though it was too much for pristine Victoria to handle.

Plans for the Victoria mobilization were well under way say many activists in the region who planned to spend most of the next year organizing against NATO.

"It's a victory for the anti-war peace movement," says Bruce Wallace, the research coordinator and acting director of VIPIRG. "Many people in Victoria don't want the war machine here. We weren't welcoming and so they moved."

Summer McFadyen, chairperson of the University of Victoria Students' Society agrees.

> The momentum was building for, I think, an enormous protest. We were getting support from all over the world.
>
> *Shane Calder, UVic student*

"I think it's fabulous. I'm happy. It means we've been successful."

Shane Calder, a fourth year Social Work student, says he thinks the decision shows that NATO is afraid.

"They're like a typical bully: they're cowards. And they're not willing to face the type of protest necessary to dismantle the war machine," he said.

Calder fears the conference may be moved to a community unable or unwilling to address what he calls "the social and environmental costs of NATO," or a locale that lacks a "population willing to teach them a lesson."

Speakers from several different countries had already been contacted, and a parallel "global peace forum" was in the works.

"The momentum was building for, I think, an enormous protest," Calder said. "We were getting support from all over the world."

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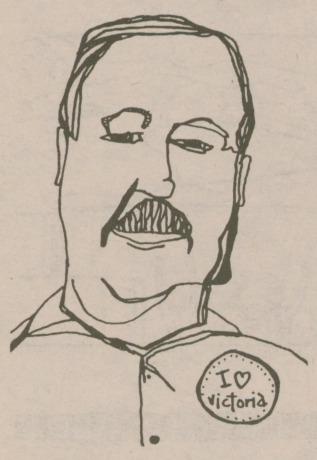
UVic prof aims for Ottawa



by Ben Isitt

UVic Social Work professor David Turner wants to represent Victoria in the House of Commons.

Turner announced that he was seeking the NDP nomination for the federal riding during an Oct. 5 press conference in the Inner Harbour. While an election has yet to be declared, the writ may be dropped within a week for a November 20 or 27 vote.

"I'm running because I think the voice of the Left has to be heard," Turner told a group of 12 students assembled in the Student Union Building's Michelle Pujol room Oct. 10.

"I was really annoyed when Jean Chrétien said there were only two visions of Canada: his and Stockwell Day's," Turner said. "We've got to get a different kind of vision. One that is passionate, progressive. It has to be a real challenge to the Conservative Right."

Turner, 55, is not new to public office. He served as Mayor of Victoria from 1990-93, and as chairperson and trustee of the Greater Victoria School Board from 1982 to 88.

In vying for the NDP nomination, Turner hopes to unseat federal Environment Minister David Anderson as local Member of Parliament, a post Anderson has held for two terms.

"Mr. Anderson has been an absentee MP," Turner said in an Oct. 5 press release. "We need someone with more presence in the Victoria community, connected with ordinary grassroots residents." Anderson was unavailable for comment.

So far Turner is running solo for the NDP nomination. Doug Ottenbreit, a former UVic student and director of the University of Victoria Students' Society (UVSS), is considering a bid but has yet to make a decision.

Turner considers himself "a cooperative, democratic, grassroots socialist" who supports free university education, a universal basic income, "green taxes" to clean up the environment, and a 'Tobin Tax' "on the speculative transfer of capital – money – which creates profits without work."

"I think we have to redistribute power, resources, and privilege," Turner insists.

He says he prefers community-based, bottom-up approaches to social change from heavily-centralized "state socialism."

Still, he believes there is role for all three levels of government in providing for the needs of the people.

"I think the federal government has a role to play in setting basic, universal standards for welfare, education, health - and not letting a province run over the whole thing," Turner said. "At the same time, I want to promote as much autonomy as possible."

Turner was born in Nottingham, England. He received a law degree at the University of Sheffield, and a post-graduate degree in social work at Oxford. He moved to Victoria in 1971 where he worked as a probation officer with drug users in the provincial prison system. In 1976 he co-founded the Blanshard Community Centre and began teaching at UVic in 1979.

Turner is a strong supporter of human rights. He has worked extensively with the Community Coalition Against Racism and the Vancouver Island Human Rights Coalition. In the summer of 1999, he attended several 'welcoming' parties for Chinese immigrants who were being detained in a military gymnasium in Esquimalt.

In the realm of foreign policy, Turner continues to test the boundaries.

"I believe in Canadian neutrality," he told the students in the SUB. He thinks Canada has pursued a "hypocritical" foreign policy, claiming to be "the peacekeeper of the world" while participating in aggressive military campaigns like NATO's 1999 bombing of Yugoslavia.

He thinks the United Nations should have a greater role in keeping the peace.

"We need a world way to bring about peace," Turner insists. "Not corporations. Not one nation."

He is a strong supporter of foreign aid as long as it comes without conditions. "We should be foremost out there pushing for grants to support the self-sufficiency of developing nations," Turner said, though he is suspicious of western motives in places like Russia, for example.

"It's not democracy they're demanding," Turner insists. "It's a particular kind of capitalism" Turner says he is a "green socialist," and considers federal Green Party leader and Victoria resident Joan Russow "a good friend."

He says progressive candidates can have a profound influence under a minority federal government, citing the example of a coalition former Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau struck with the NDP in the 1970s.

He says, he fears that the intolerant views of some members of the newly minted Canadian Alliance may push potential supporters to vote Liberal in the upcoming election.

"In Victoria, people vote Liberal to keep Reform out," Turner said. "They think, 'If we vote David Turner we're going to get an extreme Alliance MP.'"

"It may be a pragmatic approach, but it is certainly not an ideologically sound approach," he said. "Politicians start looking like each other. You have to look at ideology."

Professor Turner will speak on a panel on Wednesday, Oct. 17, at 12 noon in the SUB's Michelle Pujol room. He will be joined by Carol Harris, a professor of communications and social development at UVic, and Mark Walsh, a Camosun College student, who are vying for the NDP nomination in the riding of Esquimalt-Juan de Fuca.

on the spot

What's your perception of safety in residence?

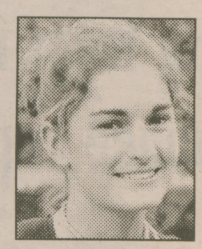
[see the cover story regarding an increase in incidents of sexual violence in UVic's Residence's]

Rebecca Chisholm

I lived in res last year. The doors were always propped open. I don't think it's particularly safe but I've never had a problem.

Paul LePrieur

Scary. I had no idea.



Teresa L'Heureux

I didn't have any problems when I lived in res. I kept my door unlocked all year round and had no problems.

Fisgard St. shut down by street theatre and dirty hockey

photo by Miguel R. MacDonald

Environmentalists shut down Pandora Avenue Oct. 10.

by Steve Cudmore

Grizzly Bears on stilts, salmon head masks, and drummers dressd as ferns called on over 100 people to "Reclaim the Streets to Reclaim the Forests" just after noon Oct.12.

The Forest Action Network Rally barricaded the 500 block of Pandora street in front of the Ministry of Forests downtown office and kept the street shut down for theatre, music and a dirty game of street hockey

The aim of the protest was to speak out against the current level of the Annual Allowable Cut (AAC) of timber in the province, explained Leah Walburg of the Forest Action Network. The AAC is set by the Chief Forester and determines how much timber will be cut in B.C. each year. Forestry practices governs every ecosystem and watershed in the province, she explained. Walburg further said that the current AAC figure of 71 million cubic metres per year is 17 to 29 per cent above the long-term sustainable yield.

Those figures assume that every hectare of clear-cut land is transformed into tree farms. The problem as she sees it is that the AAC is based on the demands of corporations who want to make the most money possible in the shortest amount of time through a commodity-based industry with a great deal of mechanization.

Activists created a fanfare of street theatre, costumes, a re-write of O Canada to "Clear-cut Night in Canada," and a mock hockey game that pitted Team Earth against Team Timber Profit.

BC Transit, Victoria police and most motorists respected the roadblocks. The number six Esquimalt bus, which runs through Pandora Ave., detoured down Fisgard Street for the afternoon.

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Minister questioned on tuition deregulation

by Ashleigh Clarke

TORONTO (CUP) – Three students recently met with Ontario post-secondary education minister Dianne Cunningham for a candid discussion about tuition deregulation, private universities and the Investing in Students Task Force.

Student representatives from three Ontario universities – the University of Toronto, Queen's University and the University of Ottawa – met Cunningham at the Ontario legislature for a one-hour talk on Oct. 2.

The meeting was prompted by recent talk of deregulating arts and science tuition at Queen's.

"We didn't spare any punches. Paul [Heisler, the president of the students' association at Queen's University] came right out and asked the minister directly if deregulation of tuition would continue," said Darryl Whitehead, a vice-president with the University of Ottawa's Student Federation.

> Paul came right out and asked the minister directly if deregulation of tuition would continue.
>
> *Darryl Whitehead, president of the University of Ottawa Student Federation*

But Cunningham said the government is not interested in the proposal to deregulate tuition, although she did not make any commitments on behalf of her government, said Heisler.

"It was not a promise, but I think that we accomplished what we came to do," he said. "We let them know what the perception of the students was on deregulation."

Cunningham was unavailable for comment. However, Kerry Delaney, a spokesperson for the ministry, said Cunningham found the discussion constructive and informative.

Anjali Misra, a representative of the University of Toronto's Students' Administrative Council, says the discussion included the government's recent move toward allowing private universities into the province.

"There's no way they are going to turn around and say that they're not going to allow private universities, but we reaffirmed our stance that we don't want them in Ontario," she said.

The trio also inquired into the Investing in Students Task Force, which was recently formed to ensure that university administrations are equipped to handle the surge of students expected when Ontario eliminates Grade 13.

Critics are concerned that the business backgrounds of most of the task force's members aren't relevant to a university setting.

"We questioned the appointment of members with such a corporate flavour onto the task force and asked why no students or faculty were involved," said Whitehead. "The force does seem to consist of people who have been on other assessment boards before and the minister explained that [the different background of the members] gives the force a unique perspective on universities. We were also assured that they would be asking for student input during the process."

The students said they thought the meeting went well. Its purpose was not to come to any concrete solutions in one hour, but to connect with the minister with plans of meeting again soon, said Heisler.

"We had a common ground to start from in the fact that we all realize that the system is there for the students," he said. "What we don't always agree on is what should be considered good for students."

photo provided

A scene from *The Adjuster*, by Canadian film icon Atom Egoyan.

Increased money for Canadian films won't benefit independents

by Jeff A. Werner

When Canadian heritage minister Sheila Copps announced last Thursday that the federal government is doubling the funding for Canadian films, not everyone was pleased.

That's because the money might not produce more independent films. Instead, it will reward Canadian filmmakers for bringing in cash at the box office.

The government has outlined a new "performance-based" criteria for funding to Canadian filmmakers. Eighty-five per cent of the $49 million increase will go toward production and marketing costs.

The government is looking for less quantity and more quality in order to compete with the US. The better a film performs at the box office, the more funding its producers will receive in the future.

There's concern that the new policy will favour films with a blockbuster-style mass appeal and will only fuel an already established $1-billion industry. Funding from private Canadian and foreign investors totalled $633 million in 1995, according to Statistics Canada, yet only $3.6 million of the new goverment funding will be spent on non-profit and "low budget, director-driven" projects.

"It's unfortunate, this twist. It's too bad," said Gerald La Belle, president of the Canadian College of Film & Acting in Victoria. He feels many of Canada's best films are independent ones, not usually found in theatres.

"If I want to see a good film on Friday night, I turn to channel 28," he said. Channel 28 means Showcase, a cable channel that often runs alternative, award-winning cinema.

But La Belle also feels the new government funding will "create more awareness of the film industry" and indirectly affect the private film college by providing more jobs for graduating students.

Canadians average 3.3 visits to the movies per year, a comparably high average among developed countries. Yet the 35 feature films produced in Canada last year only accounted for two per cent of our box office receipts, reports a recent Canadian Heritage news release.

This percentage is "the lowest performance among comparable film-making countries."

A typical American film costs $76 million to make, with an average $37 million alone spent on convincing people to watch it. Canada's average film budget is around $2.7 million, with $150,000 spent on marketing.

"This policy will offer us more homegrown choices in local theatres," said Copps.

The funding will also help Canadian distributors carry more Canadian content in local cinemas.

Advertising will be specifically increased with a target goal to capture at least five per cent of the market in Canadian theatres within five years.

Canada faces medical school shortage

by Jasmine Pui

EDMONTON (CUP) – Canadian medical schools aren't graduating enough doctors to meet the needs of Canadians, according to a recent study.

As many as 700 more doctors are needed each year, the Society for Rural Physicians of Canada has found.

Lorne Tyrell, dean of the faculty of medicine and dentistry at the University of Alberta, thinks the solution is to increase the number of places available for medical students.

"With the current number of students, the number of physicians in Canada will drop to 53,753 by 2021. That's a ratio of one physician for every 720 Canadians," he said.

With baby-boomer doctors soon retiring, Canada will need even more new physicians, Tyrell said.

He would like to see at least 200 new undergraduate spaces across Canada by next fall. "Increasing the number of seats available for medical school is the most practical, long-term solution since there are more qualified applicants than there are spaces," he said.

Don Chadsey, deputy registrar of the College of Physicians and Surgeons, sees funding for additional medical students a problem that provincial governments, who fund post-secondary education, should deal with quickly.

"The lag time between entering medical school and actually receiving a license to practice is 10 to 15 years," he said. "Decisions made in either direction [to fund more places for medical students or not] will be felt in the long-term."

The study also found that for every 19 Canadian medical graduates who move to the United States, only one American moves north.

Dyna Leighton-Lane of the University of Alberta's Medical Students' Association said U.S. recruiters are doing everything possible to motivate Canadian doctors to leave and Canadian governments need to be just as generous.

> Increasing the number of seats available for medical school is the most practical, long-term solution.
>
> *Lorne Tyrell, dean of medicine and dentistry at U of A*

In Canada, rural regions are usually the first to suffer when there's not enough doctors, said Tyrell.

In hope of encouraging doctors to work in rural areas, this fall the Health Ministry of Ontario introduced a rebate plan to encourage doctors graduating from Ontario universities to work in under-serviced areas.

For the minimum of a three-year commitment, and a maximum of four years, newly graduated doctors choosing to participate in the rebate plan would receive $10,000 per year.

However, the rebate plan has been criticized for the low amount it provides in comparison to tuition costs.

The problem of not having enough rural doctors isn't as severe in Alberta, where there has been an 11 per cent increase in physicians since 1995 and telephones are replacing home visits, said Alberta Health spokesperson David Bray.

"We've added 'tele-health' in a number of communities across Alberta, which helps doctors and patients get a second opinion from doctors working elsewhere in the province, and hekps house-bound or immobilized patients get regular consultations with a doctor," he said.

Tyrell said these moves are progressive, but he thinks more postgraduate positions need to be made available in Canada.

"Doctors need support staff to do their jobs, but we also need to add around 20 more spots for postgraduate training, so that we can attract Canadian doctors training abroad back," he said.

XMAS STUDENT FLIGHTS
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EDITORIAL:

The city cancels NATO, silences organized dissent

Victoria City Council announced Oct. 5 that the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Parliamentary Assembly planned to be held in Victoria in Oct. 2001 has been moved to a new unannounced location – a secret hiding spot of sorts.

Many people are claiming that moving NATO's parliamentary visit is a victory for protesters and anti-military activists. But what's really going on behind the scenes?

If the police and the city had rejected the Assembly because they believe NATO to be a heinous organization responsible for crimes against humanity, then yes, it would have been a victory. Instead what they have done is reinforce a fear of activists which mainstream media and government have been cultivating since last November's protests in Seattle against the World Trade Organization (WTO).

Many protesters are thrilled to hear that the city and NATO are threatened enough by active dissent to move an international meeting of defense ministers. They are pleased that the world's largest military alliance, a group that maintains a "first strike policy" on the use of nuclear weapons, an alliance that bombed civilian media agencies in Yugoslavia, an alliance that, according to Joan Russow, head of the federal Green Party, is consistently in violation of numerous UN charters and conventions will not be coming to Victoria. And a Times Colonist editorial says that we're supposed to be concerned about NATO's right to free speech?

Where will the assembly be held? Will dissent and the loud and visible voices of resistance be silenced by holding the meeting away from the eyes of the public and the media? If this is the case, then there is no victory. This should be considered a victory for those who believe military action should be used by our elected representatives (the NATO "Parliamentary" Assembly) to deal with conflicts around the world.

Responses to plans for NATO's meeting included a week-long anti-militarism conference, art shows, public education, street theatre and yes, on-the-street protests. Planning began last year and has included educational panel discussions, discussions with organizers of past alternative conferences and protests, meetings attended by people from the island and across the lower mainland and attendance at both the IMF/World Bank protests in Washington, DC in April and the World Petroleum Congress meetings in Calgary. The planning has been transparent and all meetings were public. They hope to be a threat to global militarism, not to the city and the people who live in Victoria.

A "risk assessment" report written by Victoria police chief Constable Paul Battershill quotes the projected policing costs at $3 million. This cost includes creating an "exclusion zone" (concrete and chain link fencing) around the Empress and the Victoria Conference Centre, employing approximately 1500 officers, the construction of a planning office and a temporary jail. The report mentions "violent anarchists" more than once.

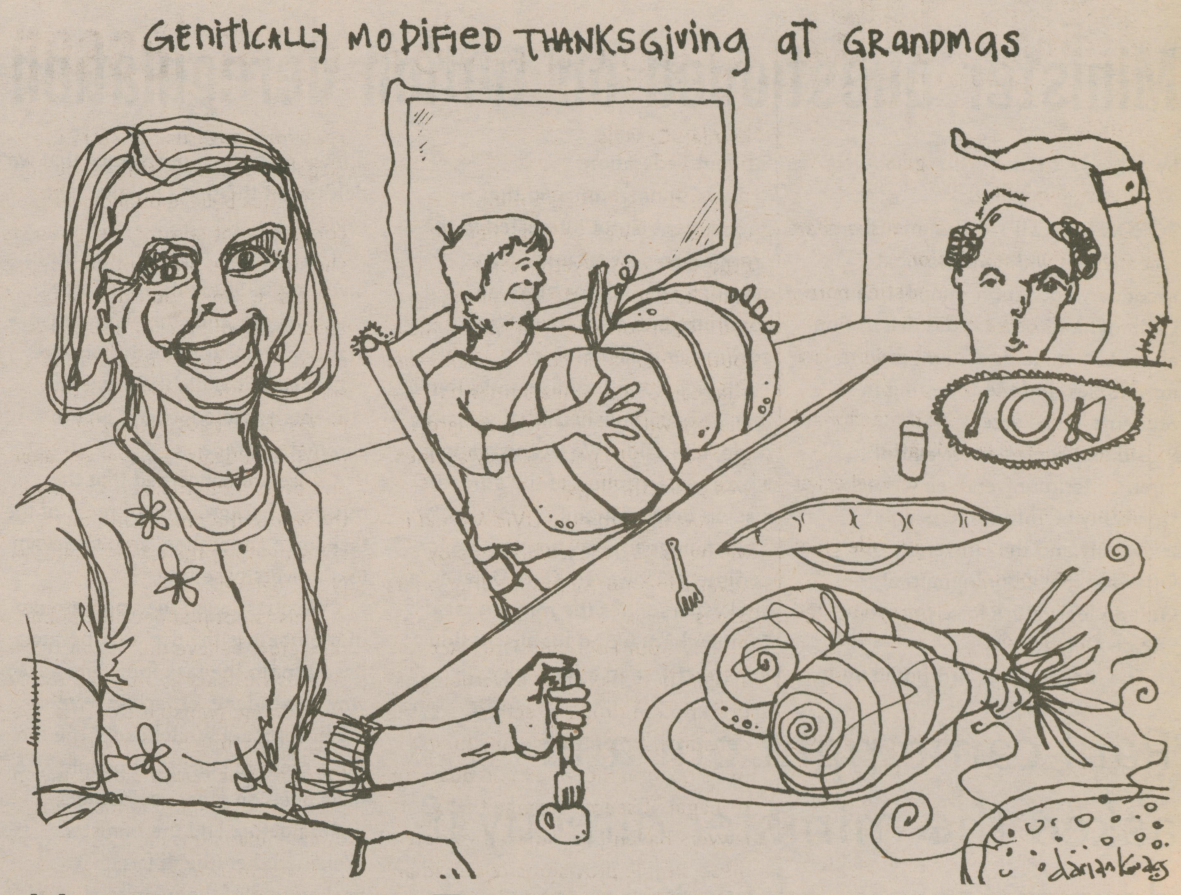
Battershill says the $3 million figure is based on an expensive precedent set at the World Petroleum Congress after which Calgary billed the feds for $4.5 million. They had over 1500 officers on duty for the duration of the meetings. There were 200 protesters at the peak. That is over seven cops for every protester. Does this seem like a dramatic reaction to anyone else?

The mainstream media perceived WTO protests in Seattle as violent anarchy which delayed Christmas shopping. But, if you talk to anyone who was there in the crowd, they will tell you stories of non-violent protesters tear-gassed while sitting on the ground. They will tell you stories about cops pulling goggles off the faces of locked down protesters and then spraying pepper spray right in their eyes. And yet we're still supposed to believe that all protesters are violent and that opposing globalization was simply an excuse to break windows and inconvenience Christmas shoppers.

What do you consider a more violent act: a person sitting on the lawn of the Empress expressing an objection to global militarism or NATO's first strike nuclear policy?

Mayor Alan Lowe says in the City of Victoria's press release that the meeting has been moved to an unnamed location because of fears of protester violence and a concern for "the security of our community and its financial well-being." The city doesn't feel threatened by the war machine coming to town; instead, they fear "violent protesters." They seem to have forgotten that those protesters are citizens of this country and that free speech and public dissent are vital to a democratic society.

Editorial topics are decided on by staff at editorial meetings, every Monday at noon in the SUB B011. Editorials are written by one or more staff members, and are not necessarily the opinion of all staff members.



MONOLOGUE: THE BIG BIOTECH SCAM

by Eric Lescarbeau

UVic biology professor Patrick von Aderkas claimed in the August issue of *the Martlet* that the debate on genetically engineered (GE) foods is marred by misinformation and a fear of science. It is time to set the record straight as to who exactly is misinformed and who is afraid of science.

First of all, GE foods will do nothing to alleviate starvation and malnutrition in the developing world where people starve because they can't afford to buy food in the proper quantities and varieties. Most of these countries are net exporters of cash crops to the West – such as coffee, exotic fruits and vegetables and flowers – while their own people starve.

This is a result of enormous debt loads imposed on them by the IMF and World Bank and not because of a lack of technology. They won't be able to afford GE foods any more than they can afford non-GE foods. The solution is to cancel debts incurred by developing countries and allow them the resources to develop their own arable lands for domestic consumption.

Genetic engineering is a technology in its infancy. The structure of DNA was only elucidated in the 1950's and with a series of new techniques it became possible to engineer the genetic makeup of an organism twenty years later. It wasn't until 1983 that the first successfully engineered plant was produced. GE crops only entered into large scale commercial use in 1996. Today more than 70 per cent of processed foods contain GE ingredients.

Modified crops are big business – a $3 billion-dollar global market expected to reach $25 billion by 2010. After a series of mergers almost 100 per cent of the global market in GE seeds is now controlled by just five major corporations: AstraZeneca, Aventis, DuPont, Monsanto and Novartis. And more mergers are in the works. These companies are also buying up the non-GE seed companies at a rapid rate.

"Gene Giants" also control two thirds of the $31 billion global market in pesticides and herbicides. The move into biotech and GE foods is aimed at expanding markets for their agrochemicals. The majority of GE crops are engineered to be herbicide or pesticide resistant, allowing farmers to spray more than ever before, making more people sick from these chemicals. In the end the target weeds and pests become resistant once again.

The increase in herbicide and pesticide use also disrupts the metabolism of important soil organisms and contributes to topsoil erosion. There is also the danger that the genes for resistance could spread to neighboring plants and produce uncontrollable superweeds.

The other major type of GE organism on the market – BT or *Bacillus thuriengensis* varieties – are being used to boost seed sales. BT is a naturally occurring bacteria used periodically by organic farmers to control pest infestations.

Engineering the gene for the BT toxin into the DNA of various crops means that pests will be exposed to this toxin throughout the life cycle of the crop, virtually guaranteeing the development of resistance within a few generations and robbing organic farmers of an important form of pest control.

Genetic engineering involves cutting a gene or a few genes from the DNA of one organism and randomly inserting it into the DNA of another organism. This is a radical break with traditional plant breeding which is limited to the exchange of genetic material between species capable of naturally breeding with each other.

(Fish and strawberries, humans and potatoes, corn and bacteria are not capable of breeding with each other in the wild but their genes can be exchanged in a lab.)

Biotech scientists often promote the idea that by transferring a gene from one organism to another they are only transferring the specific property carried by that gene. Unfortunately, the molecular behaviour of living things isn't so simple.

Genes operate in complex networks, regulating each other's activity. The role of a gene shifts in tandem with its environment. Because genetic engineering involves the random insertion of genes into the host DNA, all sorts of unpredictable disruptions can occur between genes in the mutant organism. And then the organism interacts with others in its environment – relationships which we are only beginning to understand.

The dangers of applying this technology are real. Food allergies have risen sharply since GE foods were introduced. In many cases these allergies can be life threatening.

One of the unpredictable effects arising from random gene insertions is the activation of previously inactive chemical pathways, leading to the production of any number of toxins or allergenic proteins previously non-existent in the organism. But corporations only test the immediate product of the gene being inserted and don't look at its broader impact on the metabolism of the organism.

Another major problem is the spread of antibiotic resistance. Genes can be transferred from GE plants to viruses or bacteria which infect them. Genes for antibiotic resistance are inserted into most GE plants. We already face the threat of bacterial infections which are resistant to all of our antibiotics – the last thing we should be doing is spreading genes for resistance to millions and millions of crop plants spread over vast swaths of the earth's surface.

Perhaps one of the greatest dangers with GE food production lies in the development of new viral diseases. It is quite common to engineer components of viruses into the DNA of plants to make them virus tolerant. These plants could lead to the development of new, more severe viruses that have a broader range of hosts. If this technology is applied to animals the implications for humans are chilling indeed.

Biotech corporations, the scientists they employ and our government tell us that GE foods are completely safe. In September, the federal government admitted in response to a petition filed under the Auditor General Act by various environmental NGOs that there is essentially no government testing of GE foods. Instead, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency relies on data provided by companies for approval to introduce their GE organism into the marketplace.

This is appalling considering the novelty of this technology and our lack of understanding of its impact on human health and the environment.

The debate here is not for or against science. It is a debate about who should control the application of

continued next page

[2000/2001]
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STUDENT VOICE: A lesson in drug advertising

by Alan Cassels

Earlier this summer, a mini controversy was stirred when the drug company Wyeth-Ayerst launched an advertising campaign with television spots on MuchMusic touting their birth control pill Alesse. That campaign, while somewhat alluring with its "Never play hard to get, Be hard to get" throwaway lines, was perfectly illegal.

Now it seems the UVic *Martlet* is willing to join the lawbreakers by advertising a prescription drug on its pages.

While our Food and Drug Act states specifically that advertising prescription drugs directly to consumers mentioning anything other than name, price and quantity, is illegal, it seems strange that your lawyers haven't yet advised you on these simple provisions of Canadian law.

Of course, many people would ask themselves, what's the big deal in getting birth control information from a drug advertisement? Actually, there is a big deal, other than the issue of safe sex which you mentioned. The reason "direct to consumer advertising" (DTCA) is illegal in Canada is simple: health authorities believe public health concerns, not commercial interests, should dictate prescription drug use.

In fact, most countries ban the advertising of prescription drugs precisely because these products are so different from other consumer goods. Direct advertising of pharmaceuticals is illegal in Canada and every industrialized country in the world, the only exceptions allowing it are the United States and New Zealand.

This is not just because public regulators believe that it can seriously impact appropriate prescribing, (which it can) but because setting up a strategy to try to bypass the doctor's decision on products that are potentially life threatening is unsafe.

Consumer health advocates strenuously oppose drug ads because they know that ads are educational only to the degree. They do what they are supposed to: move goods. In the case of the Alesse campaign, no reasonable person would argue that young people should not know about contraceptive devices.

But for young people entering the pharmaceutical marketplace for the first time, the information they get should be absolutely balanced and objective, should come from an independent source, and should not push them into a decision based on the bias you find in commercial messages.

It is true that birth control pills are largely safe and effective. But a 'balanced' advertisement is an oxymoron and the Alesse ads are no exception. How many young women seeing these ads for the first time learn that Alesse is the second most expensive oral contraceptive on the market? Or that 'the pill' will not protect them from sexually transmitted diseases such as AIDS? Or that the side effects of birth control pills can be profound and even in rare cases life threatening? Or even that some young women on these drugs are frightened stiff of stopping them because they have found that their hair starts to fall out in handfuls when they do? (An Internet discussion group chatting about Alesse, seemed to indicate that going bald is a pretty hot topic these days).

A young person eager to be sexually active is certainly not going to get that kind of information in a drug ad, no matter how safe the drug is.

A study in the New England Journal of Medicine last May examined media coverage and found that over half the medical stories published did not mention the potential harm of drugs to patients and that financial ties between the manufacturer and the scientific study was only disclosed in about 40 per cent of the stories.

If only drug ads told the whole story, we'd all be a lot better off. But they don't and we shouldn't expect them to. That is why, at least in Canada, we have laws against drug ads. If we are really interested in health education for consumers, we would ensure that they get access to an independent source of information that sells knowledge, not drugs.

Editor's note: In fact, laws governing the direct marketing of pharmaceuticals have changed, making the Alesse ad legal, but controversial all the same.

monologue continued from page 6

this science and who should determine when it is safe to alter our food supply.

Science is being used to further corporate interests with total disregard for its effects on the lives of ordinary people. That is why opponents of GE foods are calling for a moratorium on the release of GE organisms and a ban on GE foods until extensive testing has been done by governments (not corporations), and scientists can prove that these foods are safe.

Information tables will be set up in front of the library on "GE-Free Day" Oct. 12. (Or the Michelle Pujol room if it is raining.) A documentary on GE foods called *The Genetic Takeover or Mutant Food* by the National Film Board will run from 1 to 2 p.m. in the Michelle Pujol Room. At 2:30 p.m., B.C.'s Minister of Agriculture Corky Evans will speak in front of the library.

LETTERS:

More "cola" on campus debate

I am a full-time student attending the University of Victoria. Along with tuition fees, I pay into the UVSS, which provides many resources for students – including funding for school clubs. I recently discovered that the Coke Club was approved for funding from the Students' Society. I find this extremely disturbing.

First, why is there a Coke Club? Is it to ensure the democratic right of cola drinkers on campus–the right of choice? If this is the case, then why does the Coke Club's constitution suggest that one of their goals is to have Coke gain exclusive rights to the university in 2008? Is that when the Coke Club changes its name to the Pepsi Club in the name of democratic principles?

Second, as far as I understand it, both Pepsi and Coke approached the UVSS in the late 90's for exclusivity rights. Pepsi showed the money and got the deal. I don't pay Pepsi to advertise on campus. However, with the Coke Club, I (and all UVSS members) indirectly pay for Coke's corporate sponsorship when the Coke Club receives money simply because they are a club. This is absurd. If anything, Coke should be paying money to me and my fellow students to advertise on campus.

Now, one defender of the Coke Club argued that Coke isn't really advertising. Well, what would you call the table, set up by the central fountain, and students yelling "Buy a straw! Get a free Coke!" (which, by the way, I can hear all the way up on the third floor of the Clearihue building!) or the Coke Club member who writes on the chalkboard in class about upcoming meetings for the Coke Club. The chalkboard is for learning – not advertising!

Finally, I would like to state that I am not against free choice. I am against paying for corporate sponsorship. Maybe the Coke Club could change its name to a generic "cola" Club and welcome all those who have "cola" in common and place brand name preference to the side.

Thomas King

Sugar breeds disgust

After reading "More From Sugar: The Church of Fun", I felt I had to speak out, not only on behalf of women, but on behalf of the human race. I believe that the activities conducted at Sugar were, sadly, a pretty valid representation of what is widely acceptable in modern Canadian culture.

"Carnal love and obsessions with the flesh", especially public displays, are degrading to us as human beings. There is so much more to an individual than animal instincts. We have amazing minds, consciences, and hopefully values that collectively hold society together. I think we need to consider whether having a disrespect for sex will be beneficial to society or lead to its deterioration.

Kathy Forin

Writing as witness:

Karen Connelly on the Thai-Burmese border

by Kristen Elder

"From the corners of my eyes, the limbs of the trees looked like guns, the broom propped over an old woman's shoulder had the shape of a gun. A trishaw driver, riding past with a bamboo pole: he too was carrying a weapon. A piece of old cardboard had become a shield. Nothing looked as it might the week before. My eyes had changed... The fog of war, even in safe daylight had transformed the city I loved."

The city is Rangoon, Burma, where in 1996, after decades of military rule by the State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC), people came out en masse to protest in a country-wide strike. Karen Connelly, an award-winning Canadian writer living in Rangoon for her second time that year, witnessed the military regime's atrocities against pro-democracy protesters.

"Not far from Rangoon University, the army trucks rolled down four different streets, shining floodlights into the faces of the demonstrating students. The police sprayed the students with water cannons first, to humiliate them, and to silence the low drone of their chants. The political slogans were finished then: they were chanting Buddhist Pali prayers. After the water drowned out their words, the youth continued to sit in a circle, waiting for soldiers to come. When the soldiers finally came, they lifted the students one by one into army trucks. Then the riot police charged whoever remained," wrote Connelly in *This Magazine*, January 1999.

This was the first student action in Burma since 1988. Soon after the protests Connelly was denied a visa for re-entry into Burma. She subsequently spent most of 1997 living on the Thai-Burmese border among political dissidents and refugees who had fled Burma and joined the pro-democracy movement. "It was emotionally exhausting and quite traumatizing to witness events on the border and in Burma because of the military government there," she tells *the Martlet*. During the 1996 protests in Rangoon, she witnessed a person being beaten by the military. She described the event in her article in *This*: "The sound of the truncheon hitting the man's back was like that of an axe when the blade misses the chopping block and sinks, thunk, into hard earth. The falling blows made the loudest sound, louder than the heaving breath of either man. Again the officer shoved the wood up into that rounded cave, this time aiming for his belly. The man began to curl over, crouch down, a question mark falling on the road."

In Burma, Connelly felt safe despite the protests and the heavily armed military police. "I never really thought about my well-being at the time. I was quite taken by the excitement, the great energy and history taking place around me," says Connelly. She says that during the strikes in Rangoon, she understood for the first time that people could die for what they believe in.

"It led me to question whether true political change is possible without violence," she says.

In 1996, Connelly found herself in Burma on the advice of some journalists who had worked with her on a documentary. She was curious about the political unrest in Burma, and PEN Canada's campaign to release Nobel Laureate Aung San Suu Kyi from house arrest. The Burmese author was jailed for six years for speaking out against the Burmese military dictatorship.

Connelly's colleagues in Thailand helped connect her with writers and artists in Burma. "I was immediately plugged in and was extraordinarily lucky to meet all these people," she says.

Connelly began writing non-fiction, but soon switched to fiction, realizing the potential danger of her words.

"I am afraid of what I will write," she noted at the time. "The words may twist back like snakes on the people I describe, jeopardizing their safety."

Connelly felt compelled to describe what she saw in Burma. As a writer and a witness, she endeavored to bring back a true account. "I asked the questions carefully. And sat with my hands open, as though words could be caught and held. These people were giving me their histories, all they had."

Writers set out on a perilous path when they tell other people's stories, says Lynne Van Luven, a journalist and instructor here at UVic. "You need to ask yourself, 'What is my purpose in telling this story?' The greater the distance between the writer and the people being written about, the more difficult it is," Van Luven says.

The Burmese people suggested that Connelly write about Burma, and the author felt that she couldn't say no. But she struggles with her freedom of mobility as a witness. She knows she is privileged to be able to leave Burma after witnessing such atrocities. There is pain and unfairness in that privilege, says Connelly, but "it has to be faced and questioned."

Although Connelly refers to herself as a "responsible witness," literary critic and UVic professor Smaro Kamboureli disagrees.

Kamboureli believes Connelly to be part of what critic Karen Caplan calls "bands of permanently displaced tourists." These bands, Caplan writes, practice a "voluntary homelessness" which through their "lack of commitment and roots limits them to a role as witness... More and more like voyeurs of the decadent and the exotic, the expatriates see 'others' or 'otherness' but do not yet divine their own role as actors in the production of the world they believe they are simply observing."

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Connelly has spent the past four years writing her first novel. It tells the story of a Burmese political prisoner who befriends a child labourer in a prison. She was inspired by the stories of political activists and refugees she met on the Thai-Burmese border. "Each person [on the border] told how they became politically involved, through friends at the university, through their parents or co-workers, before the protests and strikes of 1988, or during, or after." One of the women she met, Aye-Aye, was a 19 year-old student studying literature and biology when major protests took place in Rangoon in 1988. Now 28, she lives in refuge on the border after being released from prison in Burma.

Approximately two million Burmese people live illegally just across the border in Thailand, India, China and Bangladesh. Most live in poverty, at risk from cross-border incursions by the Burmese army. Many people flee Burma because of forced relocations, forced labour, murder, rape, and torture. Freedom of association and assembly are denied in Burma.

Connelly's experiences in Burma left her with a strong impression of how the country has fallen into decay. According to the UN, almost half of Burmese children are malnourished. This is a shocking turn considering that Burma used to be the richest country in South Asia with the best education and health-care system. "When you look at these tragedies close up, you can do nothing but weep," Connelly says.

Burma hasn't always been under military rule. When British colonial rule ended in 1947, an anti-fascist group was elected to government. But their young leader, Aung San, was soon assassinated along with several cabinet ministers. After a long period of instability that included several outbreaks of civil war, General Ne Win seized power in 1962.

Ne Win's troops have since killed and tortured thousands of protesters for democracy. In her article in *This Magazine*, Connelly describes how the human body was the ground on which Ne Win fought to retain power:

"Beatings with the fists, with boots, with sticks, with leather belts. Beatings standing up, beatings squatting down half-naked or naked with hands clasped behind the head. Beatings tied or handcuffed to a chair. Beatings until the individual's face and body are bruised and swollen beyond recognition. Beatings until certain internal organs are irreparably damaged; beatings that cause permanent paralysis. Beatings with a black hood over the head."

Tens of thousands of democracy advocates and students have fled to the illegal border communities to join resistance movements.

"We're too cynical and spoiled in North America to believe in the power of people," Connelly says. "I am privileged that I got to witness this strength of people in the face of such violence, who speak out and possibly face death."

Canada remains complicit in Burma's atrocities, Connelly says. In 1997, the Chrétien government called an end to military sales and limited some trade, but left no constraints on investment in Burma. The biggest mining and gem companies in Burma are Canadian companies enjoying the low cost of operations, Connelly says. "There's massive human rights abuses, the government doesn't care about the people and all the profits go to government and corporations."

Vancouver is the biggest port for Burmese heroin coming into North America.

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While in Burma, Connelly met Nobel Laureate Aung San Suu Kyi, the leader of the National League for Democracy (NLD), and daughter of independence fighter Aung San. Suu Kyi and her colleagues formed the NLD in 1988 in order to promote democratic change and run in the multi-party elections that the military had promised. Instead, in September 1988, Burma came under control of SLORC and a military crackdown ensued. Aung San Suu Kyi was put under house arrest in 1989, despite her commitment to non-violence. In May 1990, the military held the promised elections and Suu Kyi's NLD won 82 per cent of votes. But the dictatorship refused to accept the NLD's victory, and continues to rule Burma.

Suu Kyi endured six years of house arrest. "It was good to meet her," says Connelly. "She's an incredible person with a moral toughness that I'd never encountered before." Suu Kyi's freedom remains limited. "Ten days ago she wasn't permitted to leave to go to Mandalay. Basically she is still under a form of house arrest because her movement is so restricted."

Connelly was inspired by Suu Kyi and others to write about Burma. Despite her wealth of experiences, it isn't an easy task. "In a way, writing the novel has to take this long because it takes years to understand these experiences," says Connelly.

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Connelly has spent most of the past 13 years in exile from Canada, living in Europe or Asia. Her four books of poetry and two non-fiction travel accounts have garnered two major awards. *Touch the Dragon: A Thai Journal* won the 1993 Governor General's Award when Connelly was only 24. She won the Pat Lowther Award in 1991 for her poetry book, *The Small Words in My Body*. Her latest book of poetry, *The Border Surrounds Us*, is based on her time spent living among Burmese people in exile along the Thai-Burmese border. Recent writings, including essays in *This Magazine*, *Brick*, and *Prairie Fire*, illustrate her strong commitment to the political struggles of Burmese people against their military government.

Connelly plans to return to the Thai-Burmese border this winter to visit her friends there. "I need to go back to reconnect with the people who inspired me to start writing this novel before I finish this last haul of writing." She says that the working dissidents have unsettled lives; they constantly move from camp to camp and town to town. "I lose personal contact by not being there and experiencing their life of constantly moving around. I need to go back to be part of their reality."

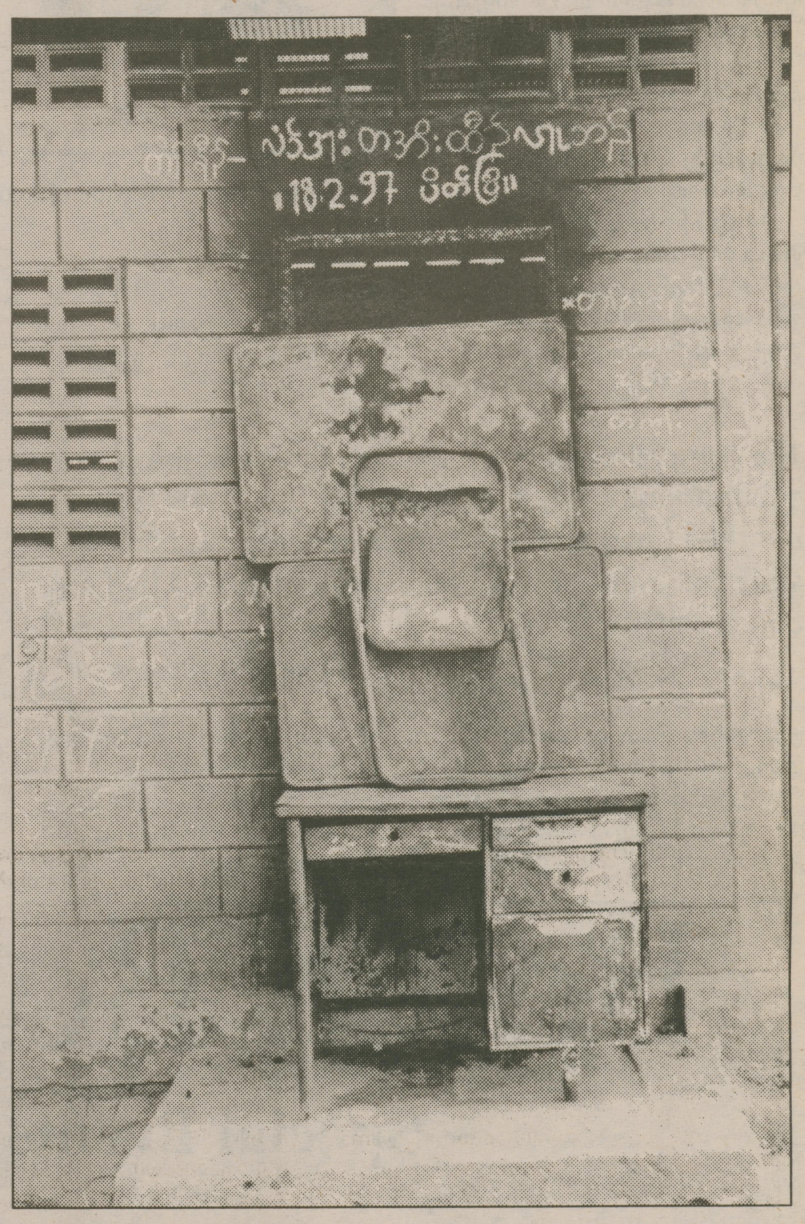
She hopes that her novel will make a difference to the plight of the Burmese people. "Part of what the novel will do is make people more aware of what's happening in Burma since there's hardly any mention of it in the press these days," she says.

Connelly likes to refer to her ongoing writings about Burma as a kind of activism. "But I have questions all the time about what sort of activism it really is. Maybe I should be protesting in Ottawa. [But] as far as my creative work goes, there's nothing I would have done differently."

Karen Connelly will be reading from her latest book of poetry, The Border Surrounds Us, *on Sunday, October 15 at 8 p.m. at the James Bay Inn.*

The sound of the truncheon hitting the man's back was like that of an axe when the blade misses the chopping block and sinks, thunk, into hard earth.

Karen Connelly



photos by Karen Connelly

above left: **Ethnic Karen refugees at Huay Kalok Refugee Camp.**
above: **This is the Huay Kalok Library building after a DKBO attack in 1997. The writing reads "They have burned our library" and "The library is closed."**
left: **Karen refugee children a week after SLORC supported troops entered Thai territory and attacked several refugee camps. They burned houses, schools, churches and medical clinics.**

Connelly's insistence that she is not a tourist, but a traveller, is a privileged position. A position that allows her to exclude herself from the impact of tourism on the countries she visits.

Smaro Kamboureli

Brief history of Burma

by Carey Rudisill

• British rule existed in Burma from 1825 to 1948.
• During WW2, Burmese law student Aung San, working towards national independence, first made an agreement with the Japanese to overthrow the British in return for independence.
• Sensing the Japanese might not grant their freedom, Aung San switched sides and helped British overthrow Japanese forces.
• Aung San formed the Anti-Fascist People's Freedom League elected to government in 1947
• Jan.4, 1948: Burma gained its independence.
• 1948: Aung San and members of his cabinet are assassinated by opposition group.
• U Nu, member of Aung San's cabinet, took over leadership.
• 1958: U Nu removed from office by General Ne Win.
• March 2, 1962: Ne Win seized power, banning all political parties except regime's own Burma's Socialist Programme Party.
• Sept 8, 1988: beginning of four-day massacre. Between 5,000-10,000 pro-democracy demonstrators were killed by military troops.
• 1988: Aung San Suu Kyi, Aung San's daughter, returned to Burma and founded National League for Democracy (NLD).
• 1988: Ne Win forms military State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC) – this name was used until 1997.
• 1989: Aung San Suu Kyi placed under house arrest for "endangering the state" and kept there for next six years.
• 1990: NLD received 82 percent of votes in 1990 elections; SLORC reneged on its promise and retained military control of government.
• Suu Kyi won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1991 while still under house arrest.
• Since 1996: At least 1,500 villages of approx. 300,000 people in central Shan State have been destroyed and inhabitants forcibly moved.
• Since 1997: Two hundred villages throughout Karenni (Kayah) State have been relocated, close to 200 villages in Papun district of northern Karen Sate have been burned or shelled.
• 1998: Suu Kyi is detained by SLORC for 13 days in her car when trying to leave Rangoon to visit members outside the capital.
• 1999: Suu Kyi detained by authorities again along with her driver and 14 party members while within two cars.
• Since Dec. 1999: SPDC has ordered over 100 villages to hand over their entire rice harvest to the army, and then move to army-controlled sites or risk being shot on site.
• What is in a name? Burma is now called Myanmar by the ruling political party and its capital Rangoon is called Yangoon by the military.
• What's in a name...again? SLORC changed name in Nov. 1997 to State Peace and Development Council (SPDC) in an attempt to gain international legitimacy.

For Further Information

Burma Project, Open Society Institute
http://www.soros.org/burma.html
Canadian Friends of Burma
http://www.cfob.org
PEN Canada
http://www.pencanada.ca
Free Burma Coalition
http://www.freeburmacoalition.org/frames/home.htm
Karen Human Rights Group
monitors human rights of rural Burmese
khrg@khrg.org
Democratic Alliance of Burma
PO Box 96
Chaingmai 50000 Thailand
email: gawdech@cm.ksc.co.th

Mail art leaves its stamp at Open Space

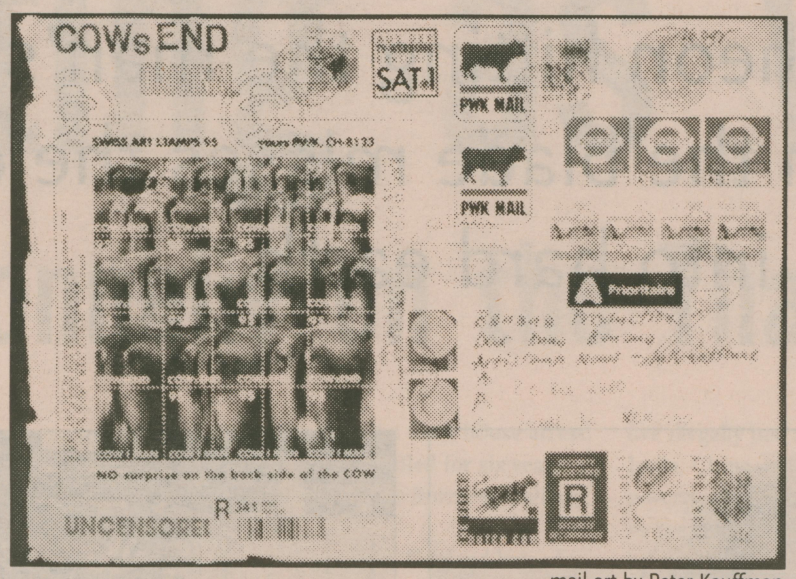
Local gallery showcases light-hearted art movement

by Margaret Speirs

A metal-gloved hand uses a sword to cut off a native man's head. A target is positioned behind American Gothic. Barbie is dressed as the Virgin Mary in the mythical land of Bimbolonia.

No, this is not the list of candidates for the Canadian Alliance Party. These examples can be seen at *The Popular Art of Postal Parody: International Artistamps*, currently at The Open Space Gallery. Every "artistamp" shown is part of the private collection of Anna Banana (her real name) and has been produced by "mail artists" from all over the world.

Artistamps (artist + stamps) are individual stamps or stamp sheets created by artists and are a subsection of mail art, which is artwork produced and then mailed to other artists. Mail art is practiced by about 5,000 artists worldwide. It includes rubber stamp-making and audiotaped music as well. It began in the 1960s with a man named Ray Johnson, a recluse who wanted a way to contact other people without meeting them. He enjoyed mailing cards and asking recipients to add to them. The networking process of mail art was born.



mail art by Peter Kauffman

"no surprise on the backside of a cow", 1995

> The compelling part [of mail art] for me is the sense of community. When I started doing it, I was isolated but then I had all these people sending me banana stuff and even though I felt like an oddball, I had a community
>
> *– Anna Banana, mail artist*

Banana became involved in mail art in the 1970s. She began a publication entitled Banana Rag, which she sent out to students in schools and, in particular, to one artist friend. From him, she received a list of names and addresses of artists that included what type of art they wanted to receive. She asked to be sent anything that had to do with bananas.

"The compelling part [of mail art] for me is the sense of community," says Banana. "When I started doing it, I was isolated but then I had all these people sending me banana stuff and even though I felt like an oddball, I had a community." She has met most of these people and stayed with some during her travels.

"[Mail art] is about giving feedback and not taking it too seriously. There are serious works but some are playful as well," says Banana.

One serious work, called "Cry Freedom for All Over the World," shows a series of stamps with a white man and an African man chewing on each other's foot. Captions read: "South Africa Whitepower" or "South Africa Blackpower" depending on which man is on top.

Some artists create their own mythical countries such as Bimbolonia or The Arky of Toast (where the postal system is named Toast Postes). Other works parody stamp sets: Endangered Feces shows several animals relieving themselves. Banana's own work shows a sense of playfulness. One piece, "Horses", shows five rows of brightly coloured zebra rear ends with the caption. "Zer's more horses asses in zee world zan zer iz horses." It will be included in a book soon to be published by Canada Post. Another of her designs, "20 years of fooling around with A. Banana," hangs in the Liberal Caucus meeting room on Parliament Hill.

"[What's important about mail art] is that it empowers an individual's creativity and acknowledges it rather than have a stratified structure of the art world that says 'these pictures are good and these are not so good,'" says Banana. "There are far more artists in the world than there are art stars. We can't all be champions but we can all enjoy our creativity. That's where I'm coming from."

The Popular Art of Postal Parody: International Artistamps will be at The Open Space Gallery through to October 28. To see artistamps online, check out Jim Felter's gallery at www.faximum.com/jas.

Herbaliser returns to Victoria

A bass guitar, a triad of horns, a phat set of keys, a percussive team of drum kit and conga, and the scratch stylings of dj Ollie

by Scott Roberts and Jonathan Rothman

Anyone who says that a dj isn't a musician hasn't seen a Ninja Tune tour. The Herbaliser amazed Victoria audiences last October with their unique meld of deejayed electronic music. Sailing on the success of their 1999 tour, the band returns to Victoria's Legends nightclub this fall. For those unfamiliar with The Herbaliser's music, imagine the set-up for a funk or jazz outfit. Add a dj whose beat-juggling skills flesh out the sound to create a live organic groove that makes yo' ass MOVE.

The Herbaliser's unusual sound recalls a spin on Kid Koala's style. Kid Koala, who played in town last summer, is well remembered for his beautiful tunes played solely on turntables. Herbaliser dj Ollie Teeba has redone this turntable style. Dj Ollie is the live wire that sparks this unusual combination. He is the catalyst for The Herbaliser's live and organic blend.

A Herbaliser show, like most by Ninja Tune artists, is a complete entertainment unit. Their last performance featured a crew of Montreal graffiti writers named Heavyweight (www.hvw8.com) who, over the course of the evening, created a 5 by 8 foot acrylic on canvas. The completed piece showcased the band with blocked 3-D style letters hanging above their heads. A Ninja tour is always full of surprises, but there's more to this Ninja tour.

"Actually this isn't just a Ninja tour," Lucinda Catchlove, The Herbaliser's representative, mentioned from her office in Montreal. "Herbaliser decided to produce a live album under their own label, Department H."

This isn't nearly as unusual as you might think. The Herbaliser has been released solely under Ninja Tune for the last five years. However, the biggest and smallest artists throughout the electronic music industry (and even indie rock) jump from label to label based on the style of music these labels produce. Switch, for instance, is another label that is a part of Herbaliser's plan to diversify their music. This new label will represent both a different direction and label for the group.

The live band that is now The Herbaliser combines bass guitar, a triad of horns, a phat set of keys, a percussive team of drum kit and conga, and the scratch stylings of dj Ollie. Anyone who saw the show last year should have no problem rewinding their minds to recall the brilliant, tight sounds produced live by the eight-piece band.

If you are still skeptical about the fusion of live and electronic music, this is a chance to see a group that melds these mediums really well. Adding a dj into the live aspect creates a new format for the band to work within. Live bands don't usually wind up playing hip-hop jazz fusion, let alone much breakbeat. So hearing it done immaculately is just that much more impressive.

The Herbaliser plays at Legends on Tuesday October 17, together with Shades of Culture and others.

Bolen Books

~ Special Events ~

Free Author Breakfast -

Monday October 16, 8 am in the Hillside Centre Food Court featuring:

Don Dickinson reading from ***Robbiestime***, a novel set in 1958 in rural Saskatchewan that tells the story of 11 year old Robbie, caught up in the small-town legacy of World War II.
BC's answer to James Herriot, **Michael Kluckner** reads from ***Wise Acres*** his second witty and wise account of his settling on a hobby farm in Langley.
James Heneghan reads from his novel ***The Grave***, an unsettling account of a mysterious mass grave and a young man's adventures through time.

Beyond Remembering - A Tribute To Al Purdy -

Monday October 16, 7:30 pm at the Conservatory, 901 Pandora

When **Al Purdy** died this April, Canada lost one of its great, true voices. We in Victoria lost more - **Al Purdy** was a part of this community, and a friend to its writers and readers. On Monday October 16, we will be joined by some of those friends to celebrate **Al Purdy's** life and work, best represented by the amazing new collection of **Purdy's** poems ***Beyond Remembering*** (Harbour Publishing).
Purdy's friends and fellow writers, a who's who of Victoria's literary community, will remember him through stories and anecdotes, and readings from **Purdy's** poems. Reading at this event will be **Susan Musgrave, Patrick Lane, Lorna Crozier, Peter Trower, Doug Beardsley** and many others. Tickets $5.

Elizabeth Hay -

Tuesday October 17 at 7 pm at Bolen Books
JUST NOMINATED FOR THE GILLER PRIZE!
A Student of Weather (McClelland & Stewart) is the startling and original first novel from **Elizabeth Hay**, author of the highly acclaimed short-story collection, *Small Change*. ***A Student of Weather*** begins in the dust bowl of the 1930's, as ayoung man appears out of a blizzard, forever altering the lives of two sisters.
Hay follows the family through several decades in a story about the mistakes we make that never go away, about how the things that we want to keep vanish and how the things we want to lose return to haunt us. Powerful and evocative, **Elizabeth Hay** is an amazing new literary voice.

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www.bolen.bc.ca

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Jailbird theatre show doesn't fly

by Colin Plant

This is a theatre like no other in Canada. You can't bring your wallet to buy drinks at intermission, you probably won't know who is performing in the show, and you couldn't take the actors out for a drink even if you were so bold as to ask them.

No, this theatre is really different. It exists within a federal medium-security prison and the cast includes actors who are inmates. Welcome to William Head Prison, the home of William Head on Stage (WHOS), located in Metchosin, 45 minutes from downtown. Celebrating its 20th anniver-sary this year, it is Canada's longest running inmate-driven theatre program. And WHOS is the only prison troupe that opens its doors to the general public for performances.

For their fall production, they offer Canadian icon George F. Walker's *Criminals in Love*. (Walker was last produced in 1998 when the Belfry presented two one-act plays from his *Suburban Motel*.) This play won a Governor-General's Award and was the 1984 Winner of the Chalmers.

It would seem to be the perfect choice for the troupe: the inmates might possess inside knowledge about the subject. But, sadly, it doesn't fly. The production lacks direction, is unsure of its purpose, and does not deliver on its comic premise. Because of the actors' inability to bring out the uncom-fortable humour from the darkly comic text, the audience is left struggling to draw their own meanings from this quasi-intellectual play.

However, don't misunderstand me. *Criminals in Love* is a rambunctious, deft and occasionally hilarious work about destiny, love and social classes. It just does not get the treatment here that it deserves.

Here's the plot for those who need to know before making a decision whether or not to go. Junior is a goofy post-adolescent in love with the smart Gail. But Junior's imprisoned father blackmails him into committing a crime. Soon Junior finds himself hooked up with an assortment of accomplices, including a drunk-turned-hero-of-the-hour, a pseudo-revolutionary who kisses everyone, a young woman for whom prostitution is a legitimate career choice and Junior's girlfriend.

Perhaps the difficulty stems from director Naomi Simpson's choice to take on an acting role in the play. Was she compromised in her directorial role? Or she was uncertain about what she wanted to say? Certainly, it seemed that the cast was up to the challenge of presenting Walker's difficult script. However, it did not appear that Walker's play benefited from the inmate's perspective. Whatever the reason, this production with a freight train's worth of potential ends up empty and flat.

The cast is not untalented. As the young protagonist Junior Dawson, inmate Chris Williams is too successful at being pitiful and downright likable to allow the audience to laugh at his situation. Junior speaks about wanting to run away from his self-perceived legacy of becoming a criminal, and instead wants to create a destiny for himself that will permit him to live an honest life. Unfortunately, he seems too interested in gaining the audience's favour to permit his character to be the doormat that would provide a base for a lot of the play's humour. Simply put, we like him too much to laugh.

photo provided

Conversely, UVic theatre student Devon Pipars is a standout in the production. Pipars superbly plays Junior's intelligent girlfriend, and in doing so provides the perfect character foil for Junior. Her commonsense Gail is attracted to Junior's personality, but is also disgusted by Junior's apparent helplessness and criminal heritage. It is only her own sentimentality that keeps her with Junior as their lives disintegrate.

Talented veteran WHOS actor Ken Sutherland does a turn as the ubiquitous William, the neighbourhood alcoholic, whose aging body seems to derive its pleasure from witnessing the exploits of Gail and Junior. It is Sutherland's William that offers up the social commen-tary in the play. His diatribes on criminality and the social classes are wonderfully ironic, as they come from the street bum.

Simpson herself turns in a solid per-formance as Wineva Dawson. Unfortunately, her portrayal does not evoke laughter, but rather an uneasiness among the audience.

Rounding out the cast is Rick Butland portraying the moronic criminal Henry. This role is the smallest in the play, but Butland is the most successful in taking the prisoner's mindset and transferring it successfully onto the character.

Glenn Mick's abstract setting works well for the play, but the wide stage does prove to be a problem for the production. The energy of the five cast-member production seems too small for the stage. When actors need to take 10 steps to cross the stage, they are hindered by the huge set and poor stage blocking.

Perhaps most telling is the fact that for the first time that I can remember, the audience did not give the cast a standing ovation.

Criminals in Love runs on weekends until Oct. 28. Tickets cannot be purchased at the jail, but can be ordered by calling 363-8565.

More or less for arts

Downsizing isn't an option. You can't perform *Madama Butterfly* with one diva and three chorus members.

Diredre Ross, ProArt Alliance coordinator

by Simon Glezos

Last year, the city of Kamloops spent more money on one art gallery than Victoria spent to fund all its arts. It was this inequity that prompted local arts organizations to hold a rally demanding a change.

On Tuesday Oct. 3, arts representatives from the local community, including representatives from the Belfry Theatre, the Pacific Opera Society and the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria gathered at the Victoria Conservatory of Music to announce a new proposal to increase arts funding in the greater Victoria area. The proposal was put forth by the ProArt Alliance, a non-profit umbrella group for numerous Victoria arts group. This proposal was prompted by the fact that Victoria has Canada's third lowest funding for the arts.

This proposal strives to increase funding for the arts by three times within the next five years. Victoria's current arts funding is 0.3% of the four-core municipality total budget. The proposed goal of 0.9% will bring an additional $250,000 to the annual arts budget every year, reaching a total of $1,845,000 in 2005.

Recent years have been parti-cularly tough for local arts groups. ProArt Alliance Coordinator Dierdre Ross described the problem at the rally. She pointed out that while the arts audience has increased over the past few years, funding has remained approximately the same, resulting in an inability to fund productions properly. Over the past season, members of the ProArt Alliance have recorded a deficit of $1.1 million for arts, despite the $10 million fund raised by various local arts groups.

At the rally, Ross pointed out that you cannot streamline the arts the same way you can a business operation. "Downsizing isn't an option. You can't perform *Madama Butterfly* with one diva and three chorus members."

Ross went on to compare the funding between the arts and rec-reation. Both these forms of enter-tainment are accessed by about the same percentage of the population. However, recreation funding (for activities such as swimming pools and skating rinks) receive $28.90 per capita, versus $2.64 per capita granted to the arts.

The rally featured several speakers from the ProArt Alliance, as well as several prominent local artists such as Louise Rose and Myfawny Pavelic.

Also in attendance at the rally was Victoria Mayor Alan Lowe. Lowe gave a speech announcing his support of the proposal and pledging that he would make every effort to see it implemented.

"I'm very optimistic... I feel that there is major support for it. The amount of funds that we're looking at is not much and it increases incrementally. And as we see the arts continue to be established and flourished, I think we'll see our dollars wisely spent."

It is hoped that consideration will be taken to improve arts funding at the 2001 provincial budget revision. The proposed increases could be implemented as early as next March.

Improv group surprises with sound

by Danielle Glass

A performance in which even the cast have little idea of what will happen? You'll need to anticipate the unexpected with the Vancouver Improvising Ensemble of Women (VIEW), a female musical group unlike any other. They improvise music based on the interplay between the performers.

Formed in 1997, VIEW consists of six female talents from all over the globe, each trained with different techniques. These performers bring to stage a fusion of their varied musical experiences.

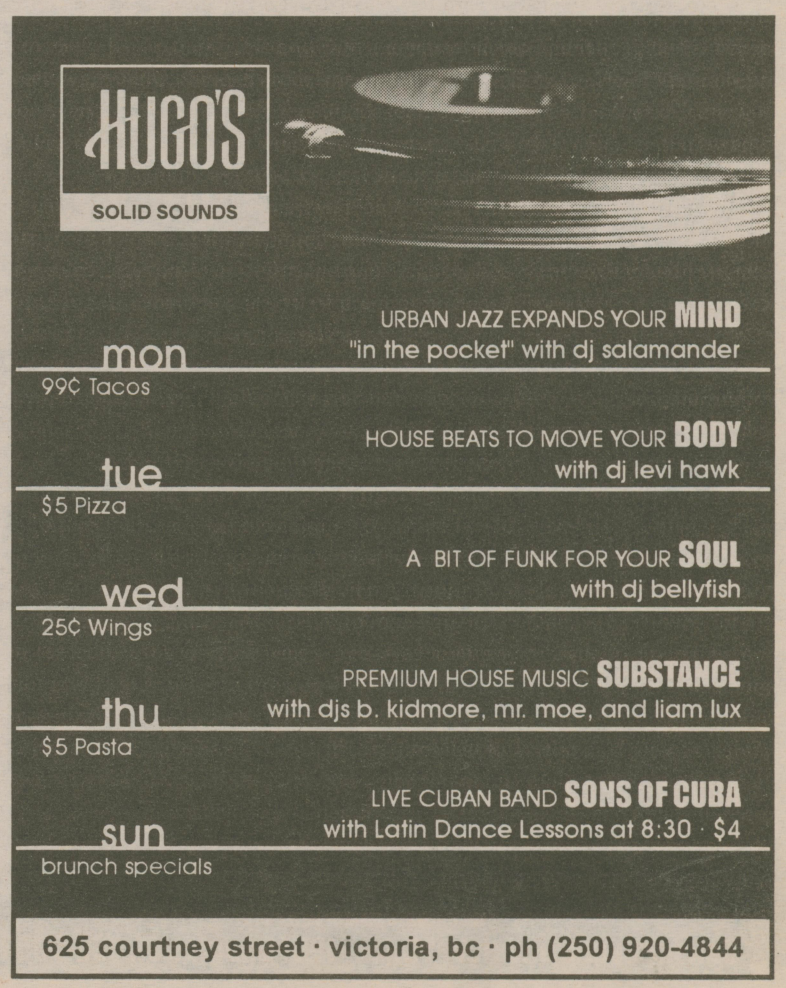
This ensemble does more than just improvise. The dignified Peggy Lee plays cello, and recently formed her own music group, the Peggy Lee Band. Percussionist Lauri Lyster frequently plays with the Vancouver Symphony and Vancouver New Music Ensemble. Saxophonist and flutist Karen Graves is also known for her role in the Vancouver blues and jazz scene. Marilyn Lerner has worked as a solo pianist and in projects for film, radio and theatre. Bass clarinet player, Lori Freedman, whose multi-talents include dance, theatre, and new music electro-acoustics, also holds a position with the Vancouver Symphony and Winnipeg Symphony. Finally, vocalist D.B. Boyko works as a composer and performer in dance and theatre. Together, these six women create unique music that features everything from a mournful cello and a high-pitched clarinet to bird-like vocals and irregular rhythms.

To appreciate the thrill of improvised music, listeners are advised to attend the performance with no preconceptions. To relax and listen is necessary. This is an art form that places a demand on the listener, as well as on the performer, to fully enjoy this unplanned music. During a performance based on improvisation, the ensemble members and audience share a musical energy.

"Training and experience are very important to produce sounds that seem natural and unconditioned. A huge amount of focus is needed to make everything come together,"says Boyko. "Listening is key to improvisation, as each member must base their musical contributions on the sounds they hear. Improvisation is difficult, but also fun and extremely exciting. For a successful performance, the musicians must figure out when and what to contribute."

As women's improvising groups gain recognition, this unique form of art is guaranteed to satisfy more and more concert-goers. This combined talent of six women is a refreshing and playful musical combination that will definitely leave the listener yearning for more.

Open Space will be presenting the VIEW Ensemble on Friday, Oct. 20 at 8 p.m. Tickets are $8 for members and $10 for the public. For more information on performance details, contact Open Space at 383-8833. A free workshop will also be held Thursday, October 19 from 1-2:30 p.m. at the UVic Recital Hall in the Phillip T. Young Building.



A clear eye in the storm

One of Canada's best storytellers, Stephen Hume can cull a story from a wall of stones

by Gillian Jerome

Dressed in denim pants, a white cotton button-down and a black bomber jacket he doesn't remove, Stephen Hume blends right into the Monday morning crowd at Finnerty Express.

Until you strike up a conversation with him, that is.

Ask him a question and one of Canada's most gifted storytellers sips his coffee, thinks for a bit and then answers in postcard narrative flushed with bits of poetry and a wide knowledge of, well, just about everything.

The espresso machines hiss. Sunlight pours through the window. The sloosh of background conversation gets louder.

Hume pauses to take it all in: the buildings, the students, the light. In the whirl of chaos, it doesn't take long for the eye of clarity that is Stephen Hume to emerge.

"Storytelling is fundamental," he says. "It's what makes us human."

A cross between Dianne Ackerman and Stuart McLean, Hume is a natural-born storyteller absorbed with the people and places around him. His trick? He says there is none. "No matter where I am, I'm never bored."

Hume is best known in B.C. for his weekly column in the *Vancouver Sun*. However, some will know him for his extensive list of awards, including the Alberta Poetry Award (1966), the Writers' Guild of Alberta Literary Award for Best Non-Fiction (*Ghost Camps*, 1989) and most reccently, the silver medal for the C.B. Fairbairn Award (1999). He was just nominated for the Webster Award for a piece of creative non-fiction called "A Simple Slice of Bread." His most recent book,*Bush Telegraph* , explores small town British Columbia in clever vignettes packaged as essays. It's a collection to be savoured like a punchy morning latté.

Wherever Hume travels, he treats each person around him like a childhood friend, whether it's the owner of a variety store in a sleepy town called Harmony or 95-year-old veteran named Roy Henley from Sidney describing the night before the battle at Vimy Ridge:

"The boy soldier found himself crammed into a dark tunnel," Hume writes on Henley in *Bush Telegraph*. "It stank of unwashed bodies, wet khaki, fear and - incongruously - the classrooms he had abandoned for this high adventure: around him, a tang of chalk dust hung in the air."

photo by Richard Warrington

> "Everyone has at least one great story in their life. All you have to do is find a way to let them tell it."
>
> – *Stephen Hume*

Hume places you back in time, in an old WW2 shipwreck for example, where you can almost taste the rust flaking off the hull.

But Hume's writing is not just a sensual odyssey. He spends as much time buried in B.C.'s archives as he does roaming through small island outposts, and each story is rich in history as well as creative intuition.

"I've always felt very humbled by the magnitude of other people's knowledge," Hume says in a quiet voice. "I assume everbody knows a lot more than I do."

Humility must be a the trick of the trade because the fact is that Stephen Hume knows a hell of a lot. A big fan of essayists Barry Lopez, Gretel Ehrlich and Annie Dillard and Canadian poets Anne Szumigalski and Patrick Lane, Hume inhabits small details of the natural world to tell a much bigger story. In an essay describing the neglected merits of our native skunk cabbage, Hume plunks you in the "black muck of alder bogs," bursting with the pongy greens, and peels each leaf back to its stalk, describing everything from its uses among West Coast aboriginal societies to the latest scientific intrigue surrounding its ability to trap heat and host wild sex orgies for pollinating insects.

Hume's glance at the world is sometimes baffling. When he writes about snow in *Bush Telegraph*, he calculates the entire surface area of world's snow fall.

Although he writes mainly about life and politics on the West Coast, Hume has traveled all over Canada. He spent three years in Yellowknife as a Northern correspondent for the *Edmonton Journal*, reporting on life in 74 settlements of 100 people or less spread across Alaska, the Yukon, the North West Territories and Greenland.

"My plane was forced down in the Barrens, 200 miles above the treeline, in February at minus 40," he says. "As we went down, the Inuit guy next to me poked me in the ribs with his finger and said: 'You'll last about two weeks.'"

But he stayed. In the savage stillness, alongside the grizzlies, the musk ox, the red foxes, the bald eagles, Hume had lots of time to get to know himself. More than that, he says the North taught him the humility involved in being human.

"The placing of yourself on a cosmic scale brings us back to how inflated our opinion of ourselves really is...Alone on the tundra or in dense forest, you're brought back to the raw material of yourself."

The child of parents who immigrated to Victoria from England in 1948 "on the last voyage of the Aquitania," Hume inherited a desire to explore at the young age of 12. He walked into the hills of the South Okanagan by himself with "a blanket, a hatchet, a jack knife, my fishing rod and some grub. No compass.

"I built a lean-to against a south facing rock face that retained the heat from the sun and slept on a bed of branches," he says. "I swam and fished and lay around in the sun and ate what I caught...Dad used to holler out, 'If you're not back by Sunday, we'll come looking for you."

This childhood wanderlust bred a journalist who can cull a story from a wall of stones. After his Northern posting at the *Journal*, Hume worked as city editor, news editor, editor-in-chief and general manager.

As much as he loves the natural world, Hume is no Thoreau. The city's noise intrigues as easily as the silence of a ghost town. "Everyone has at least one great story in their life," he says. "All you have to do is find a way to let them tell it."

This sort of optimism may explain how Hume has managed to stay rooted in the here and now, writing for the *Sun*, teaching non-fiction at UVic – a posting he calls a "way of giving back" – and working on his next book. He shares a busy life with writer Susan Mayes and a young daughter, 10-year-old Heledd, at their home up the Saanich peninsula.

Home is where Hume finds all the quiet space he needs. Solace comes in a small Japanese garden built by Susan, herself a novelist, playwright and dramatist.

Surrounded by steep slopes, the garden is filled with old Juniper and Japanese maples. He credits Susan for great feng shui: buckets of beach pebbles gathered, washed and spread into a courtyard where she built a cedar bench in perfect position to the sun.

At the right time of year, he says, the heady sweetness of honeysuckle fills the air where it hangs from a bamboo trellis.

"It's amazing how she's arranged it," he says, looking out the coffee-shop window as students bump into each other on the way to class. "You can sit and watch how the sun arcs over the sky and the light changes, hitting just the right places." throughout the day."

ICEHOUSE
SPECIAL EVENTS:
Wed. Oct. 18:
Dirty Three
Touch N Go Recording Artists from Australia
with special guest shannonwright
Tickets available in advance @ Lyles, Ditch & venue
Sat. Oct. 21:
Danko Jones
Presented by extreme 107.3 FM
Tickets $10 in advance @ Lyles, HMV, Ditch & venue
Halloween Show
Power Clown (Iron Maiden Tribute)
with guests Mudslinger & The Goodhead S&M donminatrix Show
Tickets available in advance @ Lyles, Ditch & venue
Fri. Oct. 27
Upcoming Events:
Sat. Oct. 28: Face to Face w/ Gob
Fri. Nov. 10: Torture King Show
Sat. Nov. 4: Scratching Post w/ Robin Black
Sat. Nov. 11: DOA w/ Excessives
student card holders discount
Call for event and ticket info 1961 Douglas St. 382-5853

Young tongues to light up the Vancouver Writer's Festival

by Carey Rudisill

University of Victoria alumni Brad Cran plans to give the writing establishment another dose of his homemade youth elixir at the upcoming Vancouver International Writers Festival.

The recipe includes an eye of a newt and the tongues of eight young writers: including a dash of Anne Stone, a pinch of Ken Babstock and a scoop of Rick Maddocks. Other writers include Jennifer Duncan, John MacKenzie, and Michael V. Smith.

As the host of the Young Tonguess event, Cran has something new planned for this year's audience. "Last year it was all Smoking Lung writers," says Cran. "This year I'm not promoting my own writers. This year [I'm promoting] what is hot coast-to-coast."

This event allows Cran to feature good writers who are still new to the ears of the general public. "I'm promoting writers who are at the calibre to read at the Writers Festival but would fall through the cracks," he says. He cites the work of Canadian poet Ken Babstock, as an example, and his book *Mean*. "Time [magazine] called it the best thing to happen to poetry in the last 10 years, but I don't think it received the press that it deserved on the West Coast ."

This year's writers gained their spot on the festival line-up through the quality of their published work. "I know half of them personally," Cran adds.

He introduced the idea of a young writers' event when applying for an ad sales job with the festival in 1999. The job interview turned into a pitch for Cran's new idea. He got the job and the event. "I guess they figured if I could sell poetry, I could sell ads," he says.

The event launched the book *Hammer and Tongs*, an anthology of Smoking Lung writers. And he was successful, if numbers are any indication. "It was the best-selling book in festival history - 160 copies [sold]," Cran says.

This year's reading will include the music of Lily Frost.

Young Tongues will be held at Performance Works. Doors open at 8 p.m. and the event starts at 8:30 p.m. Tickets can be ordered through Ticketmaster for $12.

This year marks the 13th year Granville Island has been the home of the Vancouver International Writers Festival. The five-day festival opens on Oct. 18 and offers readings from a variety of writers including Margaret Atwood, UVic professor Patrick Lane, P.K. Page, and Harry Potter author J.K. Rowling.

Marty McSorley and the myth of non-violent hockey

by Jeremy Shragge

Is it just me, or was the Marty McSorley trial a colossal waste of time?

Most everyone agrees that McSorley's violent high sticking of Vancouver Canuck Donald Brashear represented a special kind of stupidity. The type of judgment lapse usually reserved for philandering presidents and coke-head rock stars. The February attack was reckless, dangerous, cowardly and now, thanks to judge William Kitchen, criminal too.

Last Friday, in B.C. provincial court, the former Boston Bruin enforcer was found guilty of assault with a weapon and handed an 18-month conditional discharge.

In his verdict Kitchen found that the manner in which McSorley had struck at Brashear's head with his stick, resulting in the latter suffering a third-degree concussion, was both "unpremeditated and impulsive."

"He slashed for the head," the judge ruled. "A child swinging at a T-ball would not miss. A housekeeper swinging a carpetbeater would not miss. An NHL player would never, ever miss.

"Brashear," said Kitchen, "was struck as intended."

No shit he was "struck as intended." A blind man could have figured that out. We didn't need a provincial court judge to tell us that.

If one can manage to struggle past the torrent of self-indulgent and hackneyed commentary that has been flooding out of the main stream press since Kitchen's decision (if I read one more article calling the verdict a "wake-up-call" to the league, I shall certainly soil myself), an essential and as of yet unanswered question bobs to the surface:

Which sentencing objective, precisely, was the Crown prosecutor attempting to achieve by bringing this matter to trial? Punishment? deterrence? none of the above?

Let's start with punishment. In practical terms, McSorley's sentance (read "probation") simply compels him to stay out of trouble with the law ("keep the peace").

If he behaves he shall never see the inside of a prison cell, nor will he be burdened with a criminal record. In addition, McSorley is prohibited from playing in games against Brashear, and for 18 months he will be unable to travel to the United States – home to the vast majority of NHL clubs.

In other words, the verdict effectively ends the 37-year-old's career and not his life. Then again, his playing days were fundamentally over before the trial started anyway.

photo provided

McSorley heading into court.

McSorley was/is already under an indefinite suspension meted out by the league immediately after the incident. He was forced to sit out the last 23 games of the regular season (the Bruins didn't make the playoffs) at a cost of over $100,000 US. in lost salary.

To make matters worse, McSorley was released by Boston in the off-season and is now an unrestricted free-agent. So now in addition to being unemployed, the guy is now unemployable.

Today, an over-the-hill enforcer with a reputation for kicking ass (McSorley is the third most penalized player in league history) and not scoring goals, who is forbidden from even entering the US has about as much chance of getting an NHL contract as the subway panhandler from the movie *Kids*. ("I have no legs. I have no legs.")

That McSorley's trial and subsequent sentencing were never about the delivery of judicial "punishment" was made abundantly clear by the presiding judge.

"The finding of guilt is the real consequence here," Kitchen announced. "He will carry the stigma of this with him for the rest of his career, maybe the rest of his life."

What about deterrence then? In his judgment Kitchen stated that "The written rules are not that realistic, the penalties do not deter." No, they sure don't, just ask Scott Niedermayer.

Not one month after Brashear's clubbing, the New Jersey Devil defenseman high-sticked Florida Panther Peter Worrell in the noggin. Niedermayer got a ten game suspension and then went on to lead the Devils to the Stanley Cup.

In the eyes of the league, however, the circumstances surrounding this incident were radically different, i.e., the attack wasn't from behind, Worrell had thrown a cheap shot of his own, and, oh yah, Scott Niedermayer is one of the best players in the league.

The last time an NHL player was charged by the Crown for an on-ice altercation (1988), Minnesota North Star Dino Ciccarelli was found guilty of high-sticking Toronto Maple Leaf Luke Richardson in the head. For his little outburst Ciccarelli spent a night in a Toronto jail.

For the last word on the potential for reducting exceesive NHL violence by way of criminal prosecutions, consider the comments of Leafs forward and tough guy Shayne Corson:

"It's not going to change my life at all. It's not going to change the way I play." Who wants to bet that Corson is not alone in his views?

As for the real agenda behind McSorley's show trial and bizzare sentence, your guess is as good as mine.

It doesn't matter much. History quite clearly indicates that the judge Kitchen's decision is as impotent as a Viagra addict.

The reason is simple: professional hockey is a rough sport with occasional interludes of extreme violence. It always has been, and always will be.

Players have been getting maimed on the ice for well over a century. It comes with the territory. It's part of the game. No misdemeanor assault conviction of a has-been enforcer is going to change anything.

A dead superstar on the other hand...

Paralympics to take over Sydney next week

By Andrew McKague

SYDNEY (CUP) — With the hype and glory of the Olympic Games, the other games—the Paralympics—often are brushed aside.

The Paralympics showcase the athletic talent of thousands of disabled competitors. The games got their name from the word "parallel," as they are the games paralleled to the Olympic Games.

This year's Paralympics take place in Sydney from Oct. 18 to Oct. 29, two weeks after the completion of the Olympics.

This year will mark the largest Paralympics ever, with 550 gold medal events from eight-teen sports. With 4000 athletes participating from over 125 delegations, the competition and skill should be at the highest level ever.

Anticipation is high with record breaking ticket sales and sellouts to some events, signaling increased interest from fans.

Currently half a million tickets to events have been sold and most wheelchair basketball games and power lifting contests are completely sold out. Sales officials are anticipating another 650,000 tickets will be sold in the next month.

The surge of interest from fans may have to do with the media, who have greater interest in the games this time around. The fact that 48 countries have secured broadcast rights proves that the games will be well documented.

Additionally, it is estimated that 2000 accredited members of the media will cover the games with on-the-scene reports.

Some celebrities are becoming involved to promote the Paralympics as well. Australian actor Jack Thompson (Broken Arrow) is headlining a list of talent to plug the games. Thompson said the athletes "express the Australian spirit of 'Give it a go'."

The torch relay will begin Oct. 4 at the Parliament House in Canberra. The torch will be lit by an Australian Aboriginal group and then will travel to every capital in the country, ending up in Sydney.

The actual opening ceremonies will be held in Sydney Olympic Park, which will also host the closing ceremonies and fourteen of the eighteen sports.

The Paralympics are also being marketed more exclusively, with an extremely low mintage of collector's coins. Only 7500 gold coins, 15,000 silver, and 30,000 bronze will be available for purchase.

The history of the Paralympics goes back to its creator, Sir Ludwig Guttman. Guttman worked in hospitals after World War II, and grew to care for the disabled, which led to his idea. Guttman thought that competition was necessary for the disabled and he organized the 1948 Wheelchair Games, which coincided with the London Olympic Games. Over time the events changed and expanded, leading to the first ever Paralympic games of 1960 held in Rome.

There is no contract that binds the Paralympics to be in the same city as the Olympics, although five of the last ten Olympic cities have also hosted the Paralympics. Obviously, it makes sense for both games to compliment each other, maximizing the use of arenas and stadiums, some of which are often just built for the Olympics.

This year's Paralympics will be like no other. With all variables added, the Paralympics will be larger than the 1956 Melbourne Olympic Games, the 1998 Kuala Lumpur Commonwealth Games and twice the size of the 1998 Nagano Winter Olympics.

Unfortunately, the bulk of the public still know little, if anything, of the Paralympics, but with growth like this year, and added media coverage, things will change.

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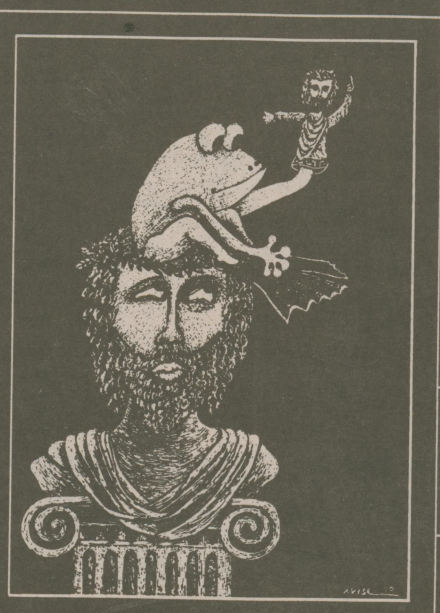
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UVic's new varsity golfers to swing their clubs on Florida greens

by Iain McLetchie

Ahhh, golf. Visions of old men in shorts jacked up to their chest, chopping their drives 75 yards onto a patchy fairway.

Perfectly manicured fairways lined with majestic pine trees; birds chirping in the woods. Yes. Crisply struck drives; magnificent approach shots and well-read putts, tracking over perfect greens and falling, finally, with a soft "plunk" into the hole.

Life is good. Instant camaraderie with new playing partners, continuous conversation with old friends and, above all, a feeling of oneness with nature. Yes, this is golf.

There's a flipside: twenty-minute waits on the tee; slicing your drive into the woods as the next group watches you; not finding your ball, and then chunking your approach fifty yards short. Yes, when the world of golf turns on you, you mumble the words once spoken by Mark Twain: "Golf is a good walk spoiled."

While you and I and the rest of the duffers in the world might agree with the latter approach, a group of guys on campus would know no disdain for life on the greens.

These lads are members of UVic's golf team, and life is definitely looking good for them right now.

With new varsity status, and regular tournaments being scheduled at the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) level, there is much to look forward to.

Craig Windrim is a founding member of the two-year-old team. For a kid from Calgary bent on golf, sunny Victoria was a natural

> We go out and practice [at Uplands] twice a week, and can play anytime.... The free range privilege is great. I probably hit five or six buckets a week.
>
> *Craig Windrim*

destination. "I remember in the summers, my folks would drop me off at the course at 7 a.m. and return to pick me up at seven at night. That was my summer existence every day for five years of my life when I was a junior."

That life couldn't last for too long. "There's really only a five month season out in Alberta, so I looked forward to coming out here and playing year round, and I was really disappointed to find out there wasn't a program of any sort."

Jon Roy had a similar experience. "I grew up in Montreal, and played a fair bit of competitive golf while growing up. I was attracted to Victoria because I could play 12 months a year, and was surprised there was no golf program when I arrived here."

Along with a few other guys, Windrim kickstarted a golf club. "It was a really positive experience. We had a fairly casual approach to it," says Windrim.

"The executive would set up rounds at courses in the area, and they were more than willing to offer discounts as we were booking well in advance. It's a non-routine basis, a way to play a bit and enjoy yourself. It's also a great way to meet people on campus." The club proved to be popular, with over 200 students signing up as members.

Roy served as club president for the last two years and enjoyed it immensely. "I still feel a part of it, even though I'm not really involved with it any more." The executive had hopes for eventually forming a varsity team, and that hope came to fruition this summer when UVic approved golf as a level II varsity program.

Former Uplands Golf Course teaching pro Brian Carbury was hired as coach. A good choice: being on

photo provided

Brian Carbury, former pro at Uplands Golf Course, is the coach of UVic new varsity level II golf team.

the Board of Directors at Uplands gives him a large number of contacts in the golf industry.

He's already impressed with how the community has reacted to the varsity program.

"We've already been able to obtain some private scholarship money. The whole idea of the team is out there and the golf community has already stepped up big-time." His connection to Uplands have proven extremely beneficial, as the team has passes to the course and to its driving range.

"It's ideal for the guys because they can go there any time they want and hit balls or play a round."

The team is sponsored by local companies in the way of clothing and equipment. Carbury isn't surprised. "This is a big thing for the community. Golf is a huge sport in Victoria and is also 'out there' popularity wise around the world."

He has plans for more serious fundraising in the future, just as a way to help with costs. "My next big project is a serious fundraising drive. Hopefully, it can become an ongoing thing. With the costs of going to tournaments and the exchange rate being where it is, we need to raise funds ourselves."

The team is comprised of five traveling players and five alternates. Carbury tries to take a mild hands-on approach. "I don't want to get in there and rock the boat too much. It's just a few pointers here and there which hopefully helps the guys improve," he says.

Roy is clearly impressed with his coach's efforts. "Brian made it clear at the start that he wouldn't be too hands-on. He'd help us if we wanted it, but we had to make that choice. He's been bending over backwards to get us onto the course, and I really appreciate that."

Two weeks ago the team went down to Bellingham for a tournament, and Carbury was impressed with the calibre of play. "We have a good group of players, but we don't have a lot of tournament experience.

We're playing against U.S. schools who give their kids full-ride scholarships. They're playing golf first and education second." Carbury's goals for his players is fairly simple: "We just need to set our sights on achieving our personal goals."

Windrim would agree with that. "Playing varsity here is something extra for me, something on the side of academics. I don't want to be a head pro and have golf become my life. Its an experience I enjoy, something to reminisce about down the road."

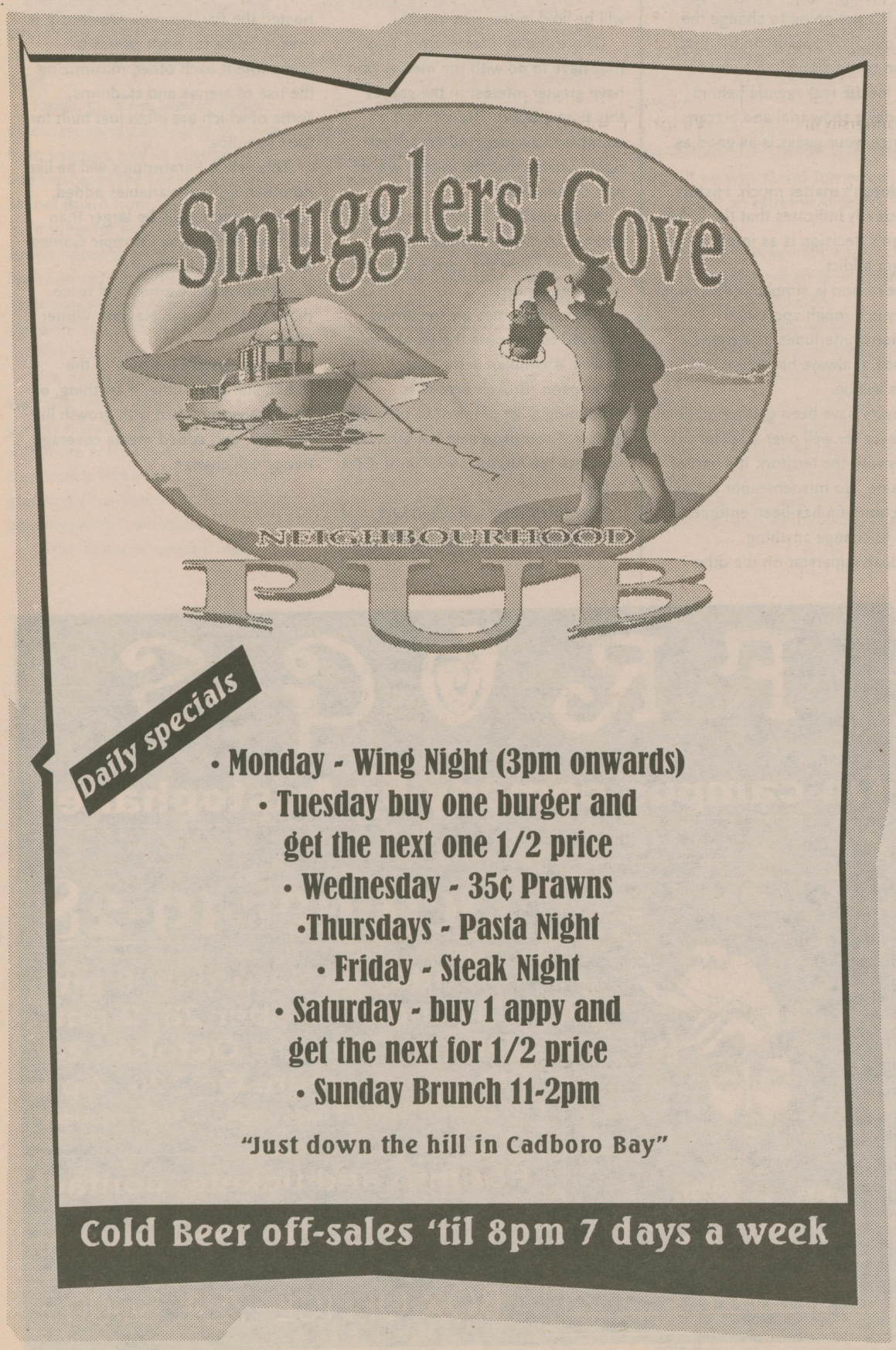
There are still plenty of tournaments left this year. Carbury is focusing on starting an exhibition series with other Canadian schools and hopefully seeing it grow. He is in the process of planning a tournament for the end of October in Victoria.

The team's ultimate goal is the regional qualifier in Idaho at the end of the season where a high placing would send them to the NAIA nationals in Florida.

That's a pretty lofty goal, and one which Carbury isn't really concerned about. "Given our size and youth, placing middle of the pack is a pretty good result."

Roy feels the same way. "We're just playing for fun, going out against guys who are strictly golf. That's what they go to school for. It's just great to go out and have some good competition."

For Roy and Windrim, this team embodies the fulfillment of a goal set three years ago. Down the road, Carbury sees the program as becoming highly competitive. For now though, everyone will be more than happy just to have a program to call their own, regardless of tournament results and first-year jitters.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• Sunday Brunch 11-2pm
"Just down the hill in Cadboro Bay"
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UVic cross country team ready for Beacon Hill run

by Dena vanDalfsen

Last season the Vikes cross country team ran to a first-place finish in the women's event and sixth in the men's race.

Though both teams have a lot of new faces this year, they look forward to another very successful season.

Last month the UVic cross country team was down in Washington for the first race of the season. "It went OK," hedged Vikes head coach Brent Fougner.

UVic was put in the first division and got to go head-to-head with all the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) schools. "They beat us pretty handily," said Fougner.

Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) member schools, have been invited to the participate in the event.

The women's race begins at 12:30pm and the men's will start at 1:00pm. Both races begin at the all-weather soccer fields in Beacon Hill Park.

Fougner has yet to choose his top seven racers and won't do that until after the Beacon Hill race. "Right now everyone is focused on the CIAU's, which are only a month away," said Fougner. "This weekend is a building race."

Fougner wouldn't mention any specific goal the team has but said, "I'd like to have a very competitive race against UBC, SFU and Guelph."

Our women's team was so strong last year that many people who tried out didn't make the team even though they could have made any team across Canada.

Brent Fougner

"We were over our heads, but it was good experience. We'll get a better indication of where we are this weekend."

Beacon Hill park will be the backdrop for UVic's annual invitational tournament this Saturday, where UVic runners will be able to test their talents against runners in the same league as themselves.

All the Canada West schools, the University of Guelph – which Fougner judges to have the strongest men's and women's cross country teams in the CIAU right now and won the men's CIAU title last year – as well as SFU and UBC, both National Association of

"All the veterans are pretty fit and ready to go," said Fougner. Craig Babiuk, John Henderson and Kris Swanson will be returning for the men,s team and Stephanie Mills and Wendy Cocksedge are the veterans Fougner will look to on the women's side.

The new batch of rookies will take the coming weekend to build their CIAU reputation and Fougner sees a bright future.

"Our women's team was so strong last year that many people who tried out didn't make the team even though they could have made any team across Canada," said Fougner. "They're getting a chance to be on the team this year."

Vikes field hockey slips down a notch

by Jeremy Shragge

With two-thirds of the Canada West women's field hockey season in the bag, the University of Victoria Vikes remain within spitting distance of the top ranking in the country.

In possession of the number three position in the CIAU coaches poll, the Vikes entered last weekend's Canada West Tournament #2 (the second of three weekends of regular season play) hoping to shore up their narrow lead atop the conference standings.

After the first four games of the season, both UVic and the UBC Thunderbirds owned identical 3-0-1 (win/loss/draw) records. With a better goal differential, the Vikes were given temporary guardianship of first place.

In the aftermath of last Sunday's 3-1 loss to UBC, however, the Victoria squad now finds itself looking up at the number two ranked T-Birds -- albeit both teams still have the same record (5-1-2).

Hosted by the University of Alberta, the three day tournament saw the five Canada West teams (UVic, UBC, U of A, University of Calgary, and University of Manitoba) face off in a four game, 'round robin' format.

In Friday's opener, the Vikes dispatched the winless and vastly outmatched Manitoba Bisons 8-0. Victoria rookie Sara Simpson scored a hat trick while teammates Hayley Wickman and Rachel Peters each potted two. The result represented an improvement over the Vikes' previous encounter with the hapless Bisons, in which Victoria prevailed by only five goals to nil.

On Saturday, UVic played an intraprovincial doubleheader, taking on both the U of C and the U of A. In the morning tie, the Vikes sent the Dinos to their second defeat in as many days by a score of 2-0. Several hours later, in what Victoria head coach Lynne Beecroft called her team's "very best game if the season," the Pandas were dispatched in a similar fashion, going down in defeat 1-0.

Victoria's undefeated streak was not to last the weekend, however. In Sunday's loss to UBC, the Vikes seemed unable to sustain their level of play in the later stages of the match. Said Beecroft: "I can't say we played 70 minutes of hockey against UBC... maybe we showed them too much respect."The Vikes will have one final shot at capturing the Canada West crown, Oct. 20-22 at UBC.

Canada West women's field hockey standings

	W	L	D	Pt
UBC**	5	1	2	17
Victoria	5	1	2	17
Alberta	4	3	1	13
Calgary	2	4	2	8
Manitoba	0	0	8	0

**UBC leads conference due to better head-to-head record vs. UVic.

Canada West Tournament #2

Oct. 6-8, at Edmonton

Friday's Results:
Victoria 8, Manitoba 0
UBC 4, Calgary 0
Alberta 4, Manitoba 0

Saturday's Results:
Victoria 2, Calgary 0
Alberta 2, UBC 1
Calgary 3, Manitoba 0
Victoria 1, Alberta 0

Sunday's Results:
UBC 3, Manitoba 0
Alberta 3, Calgary 1
UBC 3, Victoria 0

CIAU women's field hockey national rankings

(Previous week's rankings in parentheses)

1. Toronto	(1)
2. UBC	(2)
3. Victoria	(3)
4. Waterloo	(4)
5. Alberta	(5)
6. York	(6)
7. Calgary	(7)
8. New Brunswick	(8)
9. Carleton	(9)
10. St Mary's	(10)

As of Oct. 1, 2000

BILLBOARDS

ON CAMPUS

Sessions in Spirituality presents **Eco-feminist Spiritualities: Listening to Women's Voices from the South.** Featuring Denise Nadeau – feminist liberation theologian. **Thurs. Oct. 12** from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the UVic Graduate Student Centre, Rm. 108.

Bring your worst poetry to the annual Poetry Massacre. **Oct. 12,** at 7 p.m. in the Grad Lounge.

World Federalists present **"Planning for Peace."** Skit by students on schoolyard bullying, brief address: "A decade of non-violence" by Walt Taylor, networking and singing! Begbie bldg., Murray Fraser Hall. **Fri. Oct. 13** at 9:30 p.m. Free. Info 592-6484.

"Opening the heart, arousing the mind of universal kindness." A lecture on Tibetan Buddhist culture and philosophy by Geshe Dakpa Kelsang from Drepung Loselling Monastery. **Mon. Oct. 16** at 7 p.m. in the DSB building, Rm. 105.

Environment forum with Bill Goodacre – member of the Green Economy Working Group and NDP MLA – to debate the Natural Step. **Oct. 17** at 7:30p.m. in UVIC SUB Michele Pujol. Everyone welcome!

The **Society of Student's with a Disability** is having an open house, **Oct. 18** from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in SUB B102. Discuss and share experiences and find out how the SSD can be of assistance. Munchies and drinks, old and new members welcome!

Victoria Hindu Parishad presents Diwali 2000! A variety of Indian classical and semi-classical dances, Hindi and Punjabi songs and other musical entertainment. University Centre Auditorium, **Oct. 21,** 7 p.m. Tix: $10/$8 students/$6 children under 12. Tickets at Island Video (475-1212).

Fridaymusic, at Phillip T. Young Recital Hall at 12:30 p.m. School of Music students perform something different every Friday. Admission by donation. For a weekly schedule update call 721-8559.

Fairness matters. What's in a course outline? See the UVSS Ombudsperson. SUB B205. Call 721-8357 or e-mail ombuddy@uvic.ca

OFF CAMPUS

The UVic Coke Club presents **rum and coke night** at the Blues House on **Oct 13**. Tickets will be sold in front of the fountain for $3 from **Oct. 10-13.** Prizes, cheap drinks, and real Coke!

French song recital. Enjoy an evening of wonderful songs presented by baritone Paul Boughen and pianist Anna Ordanian. The Church of Truth, 111 Superior St. **Sat. Oct. 14** at 8 p.m. Info: 479-2773.

Café Philosophy: Taking public philosophy to a new level. Next topic: Media. How biased is the media? Do we have the media we deserve? How free is speech? **Wed. Oct. 18** at 7:30 p.m. at Torrefazione Italia (1234 Government St), Cover $4/$3 for students. **"Food for Thought"** pre-session starts at 6:30 p.m. For more information call Michael Picard, Ph.D., at 385-4646 or e-mail pyro@philosophy-shop.com

Workshop dealing with death and how to help the dying. **Oct. 27-29.** $195. Info: 480-0562.

VOLUNTEERS

Best Buddies: volunteer with the developmentally disabled. For more information call Phyllis at 381-0113.

TUTORS

English/Philosophy. Essay critique, proofreading, assignment discussion, etc. Enjoy learning but need a little assistance to fulfill your potential? I can help. Call Janet at 595-8438.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Victoria Handweavers' and Spinners' Guild presents "Fibre Flair," their annual exhibition and sale of textile and fibre arts. **Oct. 12-18.** Contact Alice Riddle at 478-0949.

Ski and snowboard mega swap and sale. Cedar Hill Rec. Centre, **Sat. Oct 14** from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. $3/$2 students/seniors, children under 12 free. Info: 595-7121.

Records Services wants your "Mailing Address." For information and instructions check your address on Webview (www.uvic.ca/reco) before **Dec. 15.**

Pottery Classes available. Six 2.5 hour classes, $140 + GST. Call 383-5446 for more details.

HELP WANTED

"Campus representatives wanted." 60 hours worth of work per year. Make $2,000 in extra CASH. We pay you to travel. Soquick.com Travel 1-888-274-8880, ask for Robert.

HEY YOU

Jeff Pascoe, good luck this Thurs!

Hey **clever Adam**: this is our first week anniversary. You know what I mean.

Eris says "Why can't everyone just be good while I eat this godforsaken hot dog?"

Q: Hey, could you review this encyclopedia for us?
A: Come again?

BILLBOARD RATES

students & clubs	$2/issue
non-students	$2/line
businesses	$5.50/3 lines
hey you!	$1/issue

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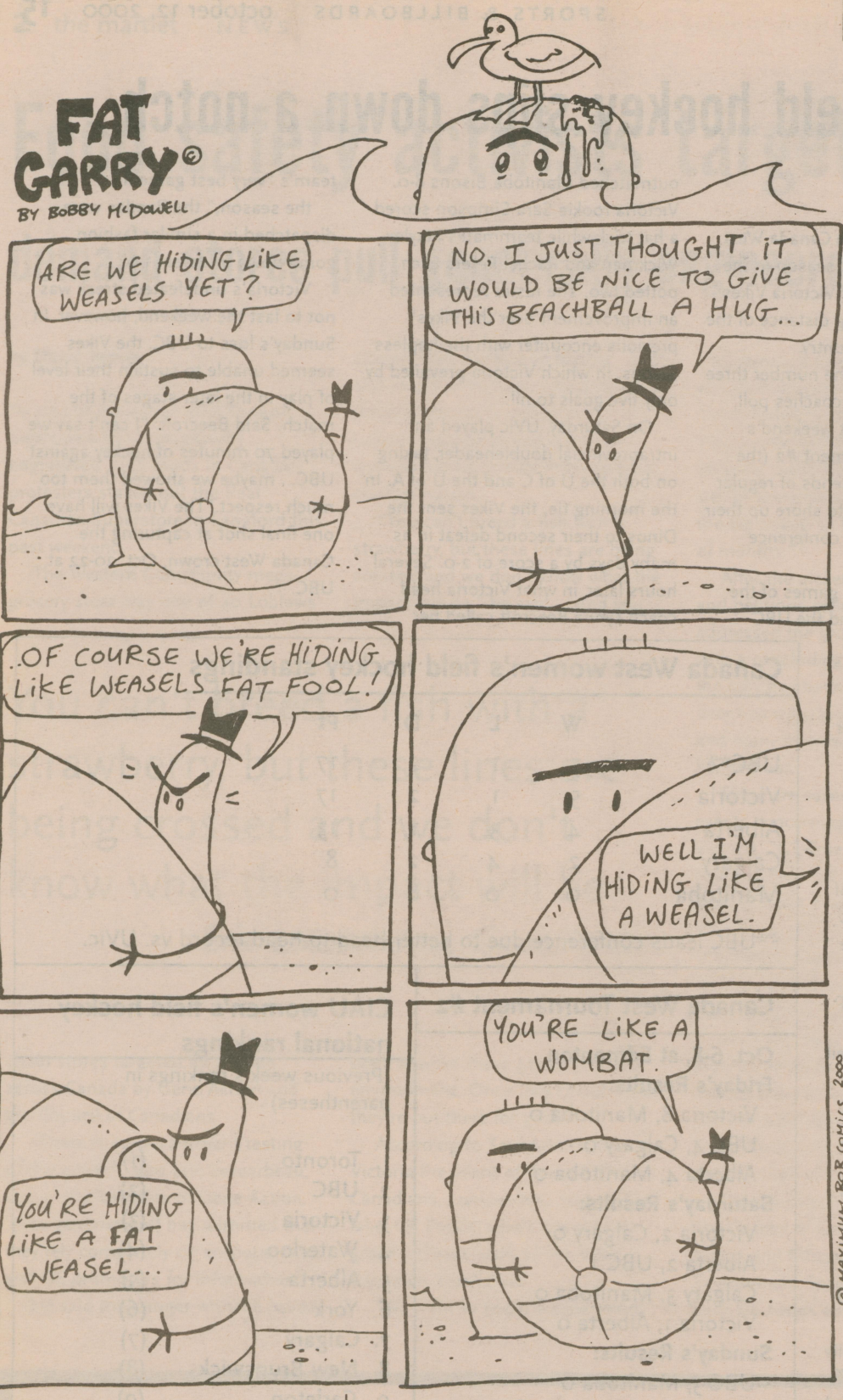
FAT GARRY©
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ARE WE HIDING LIKE WEASELS YET?
NO, I JUST THOUGHT IT WOULD BE NICE TO GIVE THIS BEACHBALL A HUG...
..OF COURSE WE'RE HIDING LIKE WEASELS FAT FOOL!
WELL I'M HIDING LIKE A WEASEL.
YOU'RE HIDING LIKE A FAT WEASEL...
YOU'RE LIKE A WOMBAT.
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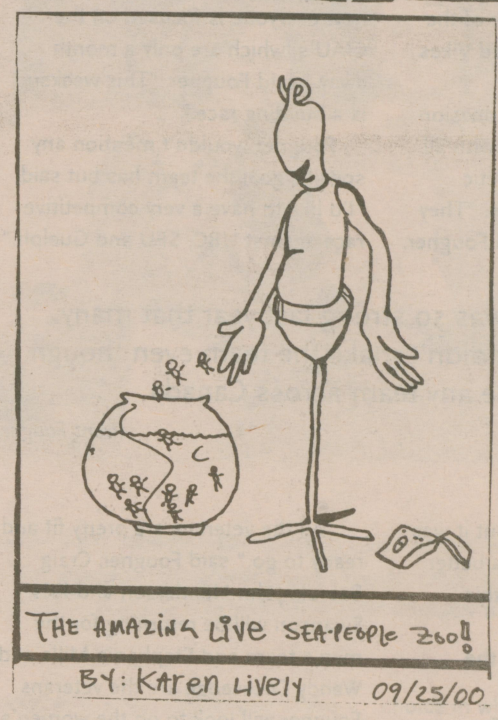
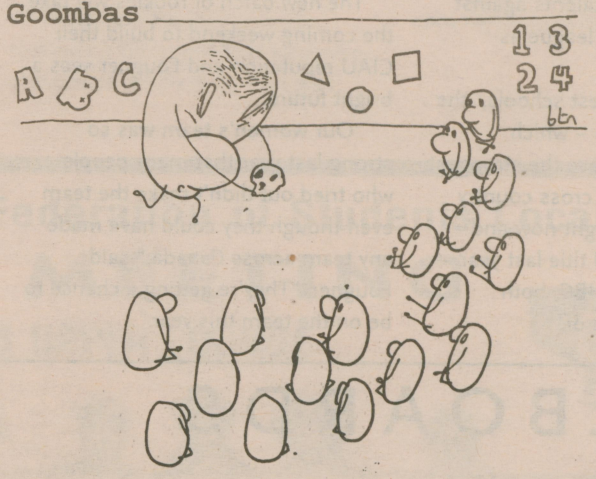
LAST TIME, Elmer came out of denial and accepted the reality-Stuttering News
PHARMACY
That he indeed does have ... Dandruff.
Fred.. what if some body sees me?
Elmer, listen to me. Dandruff Shampoo is No big deal. Lots of people buy it.
COMICS FOR YOUR CHURCH BY BRIAN FUKUSHIMA
Well. This is it.
You're doing great, Ed.
Thanks
Okay: Cough syrup. Tampons. Condoms. Pregnancy test. Girl Beat Magazine and.. Dandruff shampoo
It's uh, for my cat
ON THE WEB AT: http://go.to/simplebrian

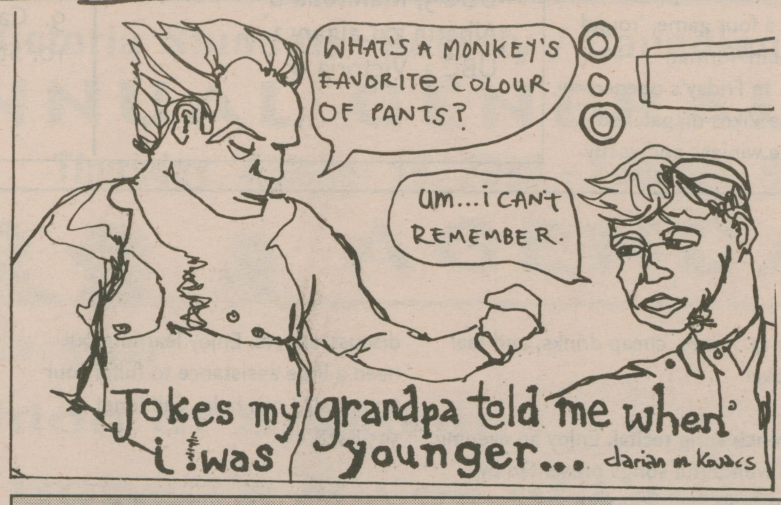


continue to bring in the lovely artwork

Goombas



Hamlet's turn in "Show and Tell"



scratch and sniff
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